CUC completes smart meter installations in Dandan. PAGE 5
Joeten Daidai Foundation awards eight scholarships. PAGE 8

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Hafa Adai! Happy Liberation Day

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXIX, Issue No. 131
THURSDAY JULY 4, 2019
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902 talks report now with Trump

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

CNMI Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and U.S. Department of the Interior official Douglas W. Domenech announced yesterday that they have submitted to U.S. President Donald Trump their final 902 Consultation report that focused mainly on the CNMI's continued access to the China tourism market.


Domenech


Torres

Torres and Domenech, who were the representatives of the CNMI and the U.S. federal government for this 902 Consultation, respectively, made four recommendations, among them to modify the discretionary parole program of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to reduce the maximum period of parole from 45 days to 14 days and electronic screening and vetting prior to arrival at the port of entry.

Right now, Chinese tourists are allowed to enter the CNMI through the parole program and without requiring them to first secure a U.S. visa in China.

ON THE NET

- For a copy of the 902 Consultation Report: https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/uploads/final_902_report.pdf

In a joint statement, Torres and Domenech, who is the Assistant Secretary for Insu-

See 902 on Page 4

Jerry Tan is parade grand marshal


Tan

This year's Liberation Day Parade grand marshal is community leader and TanHoldings president and CEO Jerry Tan.

Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang described Tan in a statement yesterday as an accomplished business leader "who has selflessly given back so much to our community.

"He deserves this honor because of his work through the Tan Siu Lin Foundation, which has a strong reputation of philanthropy that has made a difference in the lives of our students and our residents in need.

"Immediately after Super

See JERRY on Page 4

A pair of Commonwealth Utilities Corp. crew are setting up the grandstand for 73rd Liberation Day parade yesterday. The parade will be held today from the National Office Supply to the Garapan Fishing Base from 2pm to 5pm. MARC A. VENUS

Labor: Don't wait for CW regs

By **MARK RABAGO**
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATED EDITOR

With rules and regulations governing the implementation of Public Law 115-218 still nowhere in sight, the CNMI Department of Labor has advised companies petitioning workers under the CNMI-Only Transitional Worker program to stop waiting and start working on renewals.

See LABOR on Page 4

CPA sends $6.6M to CUC

The Commonwealth Ports Authority has transmitted $6.6 million to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. for water and sewer charges on CPA's main water pump tank account.

The charges on CPA's main water pump tank account accrued due to a dispute regarding the monthly billings for water and sewer charges. CPA contested the charges, stating the charges were based on incorrect and erroneous estimated daily averages for use

See CPA on Page 4

INSIDE



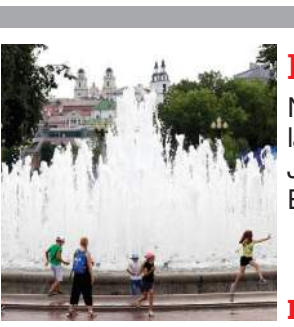
BUSINESS
One of South Korea's famous hotdog franchises, Myungrang Hotdogs, will debut on Saipan today.

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NATION
The U.S. government releases photos of migrant adults and children kept in South Texas facilities.

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ENVIRONMENT
New data showed that last month set a new June record for the Europe.

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Local

Theft of goods at Dandan store



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
This photo is a frame grab provided by the Department of Public Safety and purports to be taken from the surveillance footage of the New Family Discount Market in Dandan last May 22.

The CNMI Department of Public Safety dispatched officers to the New Family Discount Market in Dandan last May 22, at about 12:07pm, after receiving a 911 call about a theft incident.

Editor's note: The DPS report states that the incident happened back on May 22, 2019. The report was released yesterday, July 3, 2019.

Officers arrived at the scene at approximately 12:24pm, and met with the cashier who claimed to be the caller. The cashier stated that she was handling the cash register around 11:38am when she noticed a man—wearing a red T-shirt, a pair of dark-colored short pants, a pair of dark-colored shoes, and a black waist pouch—walk into the store and walk through the aisles in the store before walking out.

Upon reviewing the store's surveillance footage, she noticed that the individual appear to have stuffed an item from the canned goods aisle into his waist pouch. That was when she called 911 to report the matter. When officers arrived, the cashier showed the video footage to the officers. When the officer asked if she could save a copy of the footage for evidence, the cashier told the officer that she will have someone copy the footage and give DPS for evidence.

Officers also learned from the cashier that this was not the first time this individual walked through the stores aisles before walking out.

The Department of Public Safety is seeking the public help in identifying the individual in the photo. If you have any information related to the theft reported at New Family Discount Market, call 911. If you wish to remain anonymous, call the CNMI Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272. ***(PR)***

PSS boasts of 'clean audit'

By REICA RAMIREZ
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CORRESPONDENT

The Public School System received a clean audit for fiscal year 2018.

It was learned during Tuesday's Board of Education meeting on Capital Hill that accounting firm Burger & Comer gave PSS' books an "unqualified audit opinion," which means that the financial statements are a true and accurate representation of the fiscal year.

Auditor Dave Burger stated in his presentation that a lot of testings occurred, which determined no questions for PSS' costs.

Although there were a few deficiencies such as missing signatures on timecards, Burger said that PSS has resolved majority of the audit findings. "We're doing a better job in monitoring these particular findings to ensure that it's not a repeated finding," said Education Commissioner Glenn Muna.

Burger agreed that PSS "took the steps necessary to resolve all the conditions."

PSS has received a clean audit for more than three years. The staff ensures compliance with regulations and showed no "material weaknesses."

The latest audit means PSS continues to have a "low risk" status, which shows that they are responsible for the money made available to them.

Board of Education chair MaryLou Ada expressed gratitude to PSS employees and Muna "who worked hard to continually display such exceptional professionalism in what they do. We say to them, 'thank you for a job well done!'"

LibDay parade subcommittee ready for rain

By MARC A. VENUS
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REPORTER

Rain or shine, the 73rd Liberation Day Parade is happening today, July 4.

Weather forecasts predict that Saipan will be experiencing rain throughout the entire day, leaving the parade vulnerable to a downpour. But the Liberation Day Parade Committee is ready for that.

"We can't control the weather, but we are prepared to go rain or shine," said parade subcommittee chair Brad Ruszala.

He hopes the weather holds out for spectators, but he said the subcommittee is ready for any scenario of rain to appear.

Ruszala thanked the hard work and dedication of Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, the Mayor's Office of Saipan staff, and the Department of Public Lands for helping assemble many tents and the grandstand yesterday. He said it was also inspiring to see the many organizations that have committed to participate in the parade.

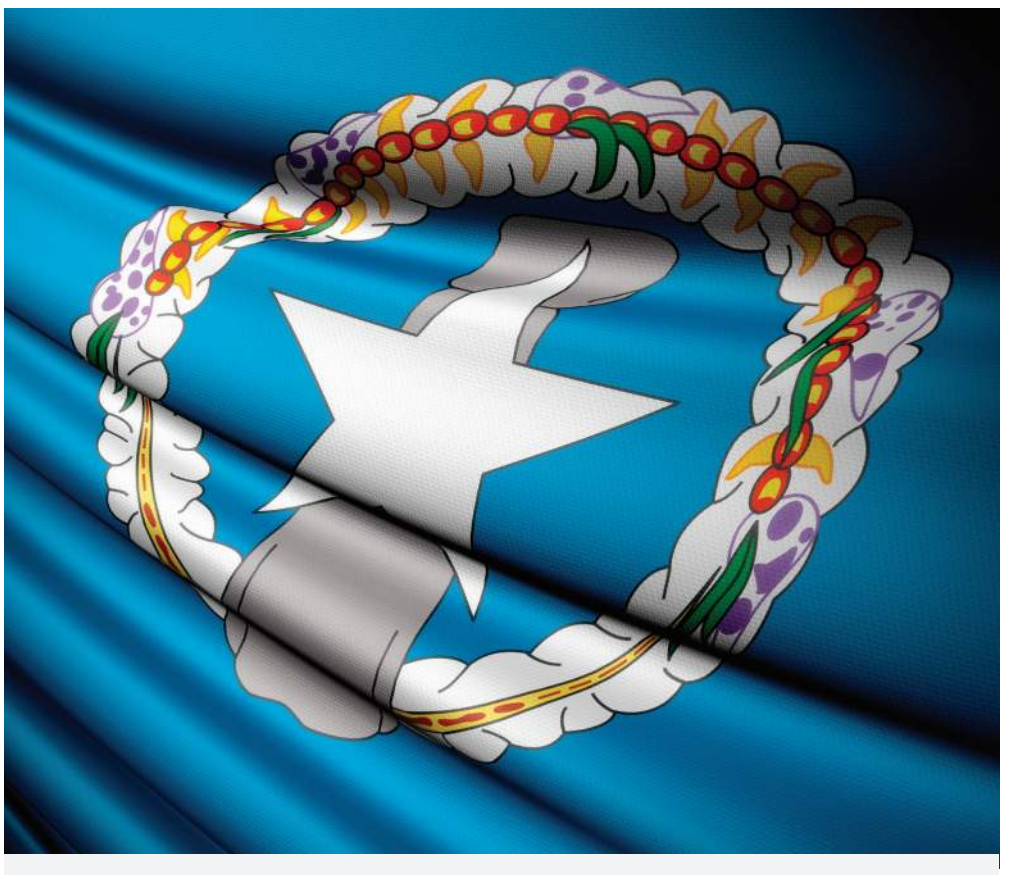
He also credits Luise Villagomez for preparing the subcommittee for a successful parade. "Without her, it would have been infinitely more difficult to organize the signature event of our celebration," he added.

The theme of this year's Liberation Day celebration is "Marianas Strong."

"Everyone was affected by Super Typhoon Yutu in one way or another, so it will be great to gather together to celebrate the resilience of our community," Ruszala said.

In a separate statement, Rep. Luis John Castro (R-Saipan) wishes the entire Marianas to enjoy this year's celebration.

The parade will be hosting the annual float competition with a total of eight competitive float entries and six non-competitive float entries, with the Top 4 winners getting cash prizes. The winner of the Liberation Day raffle will also be announced.



19 sworn in as US citizens

An advocate for special needs children, Viktoriya S. Hart hopes her newly obtained U.S. citizenship will open opportunities for her to continue her advocacy work on a larger scale.

Hart, a former Russian national, has been on Saipan for 13 years. Through her new citizenship, Hart hopes to work with the federal government and continue her advocacy for special needs children.

The first thing on Hart's list is to take her family on a trip to Europe, something she has always wanted to do.

Business-owner Miguel Cruz, who has been on Saipan for 40 years, said he will celebrate his citizenship during today's Liberation Day parade.

Aside from Hart and Cruz, others who also took the oath of citizenship yesterday at the U.S, District Court for the NMI were Yolanda Bajado, Consuelo Bernardo, Gil Bernasol, Elizabeth Camacho, Eun Mi Ka Cepeda, Larcy Chariton, Elvira Dela Cruz, Beatrix Doyle, Amir Hossain, Lenie Laxamana, Beniel Lontoc, Ricardo Mercelino, Sherwin Pasillos, Marissa Quichocho, Sunshine Salas, Rosalina Salas, and Andrea Taga.

The newly naturalized citizens came from Bangladesh, Russia, the Philippines, and South Korea.

The oath was administered by District Court Judge Ramona Manglona; the guest speaker was National Parks Service superintendent Barbara Alberti.

Alberti explained in her speech how the National Parks Service ties with citizenship. She said that the National Park Service preserves the history of the United States that ultimately explains what U.S. citizenship is and the honor that it comes with. ***(Kimberly A. Bautista)***



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Battles of Saipan & Tinian & 73rd Liberation Day

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Dry weather to last a few more days

The CNMI is slowly transitioning into its rainy season but the National Weather Service in Guam expects the dry weather to last a few more days.

In a recent weather update from NWS, it said that light winds and dry conditions will persist for a few more days at least.

The Marianas, however, can expect partly cloudy skies, light trade winds, and isolated showers across the island.

Generally dry weather is expected, but island thunderstorms would give spot relief today through Saturday afternoon. In any case, winds will remain light at only 5 mph to 10 mph.

Seas are expected to remain quiet the rest of the week. ***(Kimberly A. Bautista)***

JERRY

From Page 1

Typhoon Yutu, Jerry immediately led efforts to bring relief goods for residents on Saipan and Tinian, pledging $1 million to our recovery. We thank him for his great contributions to the Marianas," Apatang said.

Tan is president and chief executive officer of TanHoldings, a diverse holding company based in the CNMI that has done businesses in the Western Pacific for over four decades.

He has been named Executive of the Year by *Guam Business Magazine*, Employer of the Year by the CNMI Society for Human Resource Management, and Business Person of the Year by the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

He is very passionate about volunteerism and giving back to the community. He is the president of the Chinese Association of Saipan, the vice chairman of Tan Siu Lin Foundation, and the chairman of the Pacific Century Fellows Marianas Chapter, a non-profit leadership mentoring program for young people working in both the public and private sectors of the CNMI.



The 2019 Liberation Day Committee. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tan is a current board member of the Marianas Visitors Authority and a special adviser to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres for trade and tourism.

A strong advocate of sports and a healthy lifestyle, he serves as president of the Northern Mariana Islands Football Association, the Northern Marianas Badminton Association, and the Saipan Bowling Association. The Northern Marianas Sports Association recognized him as the Sports Administrator of the Year in 2016.

Tan graduated magna cum laude from the University of Guam with a double major in Accounting and Management. He calls the CNMI his home with his wife Lydia and his daughter Nathania.

"I am deeply humbled and grateful to be chosen as this year's grand marshal. This is one of my first-time experiences, and I am excited to watch the parade from the viewpoint of somebody who is in the parade," said Tan.

"I always watch the parade every year, as long as I'm on-island, and I make it a point to watch from beginning to end. It's very entertaining to see the beautiful floats and watch all members of the community very well represented.

"I wish everyone will have a meaningful celebration, especially since we're also celebrating this year the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Saipan. Happy Liberation Day CNMI!" he said.

For more information, visit saipanmayor.net or the 2019 CNMI Liberation Day Facebook page at www.facebook.com/CNMILiberationDay. ***(PR)***

902

From Page 1

lar and International Affairs, described their recommendations as "collaborative steps forward to protect economic and security interests for the U.S. in the CNMI."

Torres and Domenech said the recommendations have been approved for implementation because "they provide an important opportunity to improve the nation's security while respecting the CNMI economy."

The recommendations are the following:

■ Modify the parole program with enhanced security provisions.

■ Create a CNMI economic vitality and security travel authorization program as a sub-program of the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program.

■ Pursue agreement and additional ways to collaborate on immigration enforcement.

■ Elevate focus on U.S. territories in the Pacific by engaging the President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

Torres and Domenech gave these recommendations after a 902 Consultation process that involved their meeting at the Department of the Interior last Feb. 26 and another round of meetings and site visits on Saipan and Tinian last April 2 and 3.

The 902 Consultation process is outlined under Section 902 of the Covenant agreement between the CNMI and the U.S.

Torres said the final 902 report is a collaboration between the CNMI and federal partners over the last several months and balances national security interests in the Pacific, while giving the CNMI continued access to economic resources and opportunities.

Under the first recommendation, enhancement of security provisions will allow for information exchange and cooperation to combat human trafficking and unlawful employment.

This will be an interim step until the completion of the addition of China to the CNMI Economic Vitality and Security Travel Authorization Program.

Until the modifications are enacted, current parole policies will remain in place.

Under the second recommendation, Torres and Domenech support the creation of a new sub-program of the Guam-CNMI Visa Waiver Program, or GCVWP.

The GCWP allows for the addition of countries to the program and the Guam governor and the CNMI governor can ask the Homeland Security secretary to add a country to the program.

The Homeland Security secretary may impose conditions—such as installing an electronic automated screening platform for use by Chinese nationals entering the CNMI under the GCVWP—prior to allowing nationals of that country to obtain the waiver.

Within Customs and Border Protection regulations, Torres and Domenech recommend that DHS create a restricted travel authorization program under the authorities of the GCVWP and add China to this sub-program.

The sub-program, the CNMI Economic Vitality and Security Travel Authorization Program, would include additional restrictions.

Under this visa-free travel program, travelers would only be allowed to enter the CNMI and would not be permitted to enter Guam, the U.S. mainland, or any other U.S. location.

Travelers under the EVS-TAP will be subject to electronic screening and vetting prior to entry.

The U.S. will explore adding bonding requirements. Travel authorization under the EVS-TAP would be for a maximum of 14 days.

As for the third recommendation, DHS will begin negotiations with the CNMI to enter into a formal written agreement that deputizes state and local law enforcement officers to perform the functions of federal immigration agents under the supervision of Immigration and Customs Enforcement. This is where concerns about the practice of birth tourism in the CNMI could be addressed.

As for the fourth and final recommendation, under the President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, the U.S. federal government and the CNMI government, along with other U.S. territories in the Pacific, will maintain a long-term dialogue on domestic policy issues affecting Pacific territories.

The 902 consultations process started when Torres asked Trump to initiate the consultation in a letter dated Oct. 19, 2018, identifying as a primary issue the impact of a possible revocation of the existing parole policy for Chinese nationals would have on the CNMI's access to the Chinese tourist market and how it would imperil the CNMI's economic survival.

Super Typhoon Yutu's devastation on Saipan and Tinian last Oct. 24 and 25 prompted CNMI officials to ask the federal government to delay the talks.

Last Feb. 26, Trump designated Domenech as the special representative for the U.S. for the 902 Consultation. Torres was designated to serve as the CNMI special representative.

Other agencies that joined the talks were the U.S. Department of the Interior, Homeland Security, State, Defense, and several executive office of the president personnel from the Office of Management and Budget, National Security Council, Domestic Policy Counsel, White House counsel, and White House Intergovernmental Affairs.

Since 1986 when the Covenant was fully implemented, several 902 consultations have been initiated. The CNMI last invoked the formal 902 Consultation process in 2016. Only one report to the president from prior 902 Consultations has ever been submitted.

CPA

From Page 1

and consumption.

"In anticipation of executing an agreement with CUC that will resolve other CPA and CUC disputes, such as CUC's use of CPA's property, the construction of the sewer line from [Francisco C. Ada/] Saipan International Airport to the Agingan Wastewater Treatment Plant, assessed wharfage fees at the Port of Saipan, and $7.2 million in 'back billed' water charges and penalties, CPA has transmitted $6.6 million for the arrears of water and sewer charges on CPA's main water pump tank account," said CPA executive director Chris Tenorio.

"After payment and execution of the agreement between CPA and CUC, CPA will be current with its billings charged by CUC," added Tenorio.

The amount was sent to CUC last June 20, 2019. ***(PR)***

LABOR

From Page 1

"My tip to businesses waiting for CW regulations is, if I were them, I will not wait. I would get to work on working on renewals because it's as if all our lives are on hold and we're not sure after going through the process whether you'll be approved or not approved. We don't really know," said Labor Secretary Vicky Benavente.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune* last Tuesday, the local Labor chief said businesses and their human resources departments should thoroughly read and review the interim final rule for P.L. 115-218.

"The IFR is 160 pages…I read it and I said to myself, 'Boy, this is not going be easy for businesses,'" she said.

For all intents and purposes, Benavente said the processes is no walk in the park.

"For contract workers, do step 1-4 of IFR, get the prevailing wage, get temporary labor certification, advertise in our (CNMI Labor) website, and then apply for the actual working permit. But even with that process, I'm hearing from employers that there's sometimes no responses online by the office, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, and other federal agencies," said Benavente.

President Donald Trump signed P.L. 115-218, or the Northern Mariana Islands U.S. Workforce Act of 2018, in July last year. That threw out the old rules on how the CW program will be implemented and gave U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services 60 days to come out with the new law's implementing rules and regulations.

That has not happened yet and last month, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres asked the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, which governs USCIS, to help the CNMI in the publication of the implementing rules and regulations.

The law extended the CW-1 program to the year 2029 and set a numerical cap for each fiscal year until then: 13,000 (FY 2019), 12,500 (2020), 12,000 (2021), 11,500 (2022), 11,000 (2023), 10,000 (2024), 9,000 (2025), 8,000 (2026), 7,000 (2027), 6,000 (2028), 5,000 (2029), and 1,000 (first quarter of fiscal year 2030).

CUC completes smart meter installations in Dandan

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. recently completed the first phase of a project to replace 1,056 electric meters in Dandan with newer units to reduce losses arising from obsolete meters.

Phase 1 of the smart meter replacement project began in April 2019 and its target completion was last May.

CUC executive director Gary P. Camacho informed the CUC board during last week's meeting that the first phase was completed only last June 14 as CUC efforts were diverted to Super Typhoon Yutu restoration efforts and work on the project only resumed in May.

Phase 1 included facility inspections and installation of 1,056 Nighthawk Advanced Metering Infrastructures smart meters in Dandan.

With that complete, CUC is now in the planning stage of the second phase, which is to install the AMI metering system on Tinian by the end of this month.

Camacho said CUC is now testing, observing, and mastering the benefits of the system, data, and reports.

He said Phase 1 is the first of multiple phases aimed to modernize the electric grid and meet the evolving energy demands of customers in the CNMI.

The ultimate goal is to replace the obsolete electro-mechanical meter models with the Itron Nighthawk AMI smart meters in the CNMI. This will eliminate the need for manual meter reading, reduce vehicle/fleet fuel use, and reduce manual disconnections and reconnections, Camacho said, among other benefits.

The system will improve the metering and billing program and allow metering communications to improve billing accuracy and settlements and reduce inefficiencies with billing features.

CUC currently has 3,000 Nighthawk AMI meters in its inventory.

In May 2018, CUC reported that they were able to install 491 AMI meters in residential and government accounts on Saipan. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Criminal mischief at St. Jude church

The CNMI Department of Public Safety dispatched officers last Sunday, June 30, 2019, at about 2:08pm, to the Saint Jude parish church in Koblerville in response to a report of criminal mischief.

Police officers arrived at the scene at 2:17pm and met with an off-duty officer who claimed to be the caller. The officer noticed that the left glass door at the main entrance of the church was broken and a concrete cylinder block appeared to have been thrown through the glass door.

A hint of smoke seemed to come from inside the church. Officers entered the church and noticed that a tablecloth had been burned, along with a microphone, at the bottom of the altar. Both officers also noticed black scorch marks on the altar table. Two candle holders also appeared to have been knocked off the altar. At that point, the deacon of the church and a priest arrived and checked to see if anything was missing.

Nothing appeared to be missing from the church as the money box looked untouched and in its original place.

If you have any information related to the criminal mischief at Saint Jude Parish, call 911. If you wish to remain anonymous call the CNMI Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272. ***(PR)***

NMTI: 70 pct. of NMTI graduates employed

The Northern Marianas Trades Institute clarified yesterday that 70 percent of its graduates have been employed in the CNMI workforce, to emphasize that NMTI's number of graduates have been increasing over the years.

According to NMTI Continuing Education director Ross Manglona, that increase in their number of graduates has translated to more NMTI alumni joining the local workforce.

As an example, he pointed out that, in 2015, 38 out of 52 NMTI graduates were employed in the CNMI workforce.

The year after, in 2016, a total of 76 students graduated, and 49 of them were employed right after, he said.

In 2017 and 2018, he said, NMTI saw a total of 166 of 229 graduates employed locally.

The other who were not employed were either ongoing high school students, failed their drug tests, had some medical conditions, or were too young to join the workforce.

"Both the private and public sectors have been a big help in investing in our graduates. They invested so much in us and it is paying off," Manglona added.

He believes that the number of graduates, as well as NMTI's number of enrollees, will just continue to increase.

According to Manglona, NMTI saw an increase in the number of its students between the 2016-2017 school year and the 2017-2018 school year, with school year 2016-2017 having 351 students and school year 2017-2018 nearly doubling to 614.

NMTI has been collaborating with the Public School System since school year 2014-15 and both entities have been integrating classes such as Hotel & Restaurant Operations and Car Care.

NMTI chief executive officer Agnes McPhetres envisions that, at a later time, NMTI and PSS can work together for students in the middle school stage to provide children the interest and an opportunity to choose a career. ***(Marc A. Venus)***

NMHC: No vacancy under Section 8

Right now, the Northern Marianas Housing Corp. is not entertaining new applications for its Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program as the 301 available slots have been filled.

This is a federal program intended to help very low-income families, the elderly, and the disabled afford decent, safe, and sanitary housing in the private market. On Saipan, NMHC administers the Section 8 housing program.

However, for the moment, NMHC can't entertain new applicants because all available slots are accounted for, according to NMHC office manager/procurement officer Jacob Muña.

"Expanding the program requires U.S. Congress to provide [U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development] with additional funding to expand the voucher program," he said.

Under the Section 8 housing program, participants are free to choose any housing that meets the requirements of the program and is not limited to units located in subsidized housing projects.

Housing Choice vouchers are administered locally by public housing agencies, PHAs, which in the CNMI's case is NMHC. The PHAs receive federal funds from HUD to administer the program.

According to HUD, a family that is issued a housing voucher is responsible for finding a suitable housing unit of the family›s choice where the owner agrees to rent under the program. This unit may include the family's present residence. Rental units must meet minimum standards of health and safety.

HUD added that a housing subsidy is paid to the landlord directly by the PHA on behalf of the participating family. The family then pays the difference between the actual rent charged by the landlord and the amount subsidized by the program. Under certain circumstances, if authorized by the PHA, a family may use its voucher to purchase a modest home. ***(Mark Rabago)***



Attao to change bill language from 'LOC' to 'loan'

With the Marianas Public Land Trust agreeing to lend $15 million to the Torres administration, House Speaker Blas Jonathan Attao (R-Saipan) will be amending the bill related to the matter that he previously introduced to refer to the amount as a "loan" instead of a "line of credit."

In an interview Tuesday, Attao said they are preparing to substitute the language in his House Bill 21-44 to change the term "line of credit" to reflect what the MPLT is more comfortable with.

Attao said the substitute language will be discussed during the House session next week.

The MPLT trustees established that they would use the term "loan" instead of "line of credit" and set the interest rate at 7.5 percent, to be paid in five years.

Attorney General Edward Manibusan has issued an opinion that the amount is considered a public debt and will be paid by withholding the interest income from MPLT, money that they remit annually to the central government's general fund.


Attao

Attao said the original language in his legislation is "line of credit," but MPLT decided in the course of their deliberations in the last couple of weeks that it's better to just make it a straight-up loan, with an interest rate.

"We're going to go [with]… what is more comfortable for MPLT because, at the end of the day, they are the lending institution," he said.

Attao said the legislation itself is only the application process to allow this $15-million loan to happen.

He said he is actually more comfortable with the line of credit "but MPLT said, 'No, we want to give a straight loan and straight up withhold the interest.'"

Attao said the MPLT trustees' fiduciary responsibility is for investment purposes and they don't have immunity from being sued for these actions. "They can get sued for these actions. And they are comfortable with this language, to make it a loan and also to withhold the interest," he added.

Attao also introduced last week House Bill 21-63, which would allow the Commonwealth Development Authority to float a special revenue bond to be used to refund general obligation bonds.

Attao noted that the people of the CNMI have already ratified House Legislative Initiative 17-5, which allows the CNMI government to float a general bond.

His legislation, he said, will allow other bond opportunities and not just the general bond.

With the amendment, Attao said it will allow CDA to consider other bond opportunities—ones that are taxable and beneficial to the CNMI government.

"This amendment is more about allowing [CDA] to [consider] other options" that are more beneficial to the CNMI, he said.

"With our credit rating now, we have the opportunity to be able to go into different types of bonds. But we need to amend the current statute so that they can open up to other types of bond," he added.

Attao believes that the MPLT loan and the amendment to the bond may get the CNMI out of austerity for the rest of fiscal year 2019. ***(Ferdie De La Torre)***

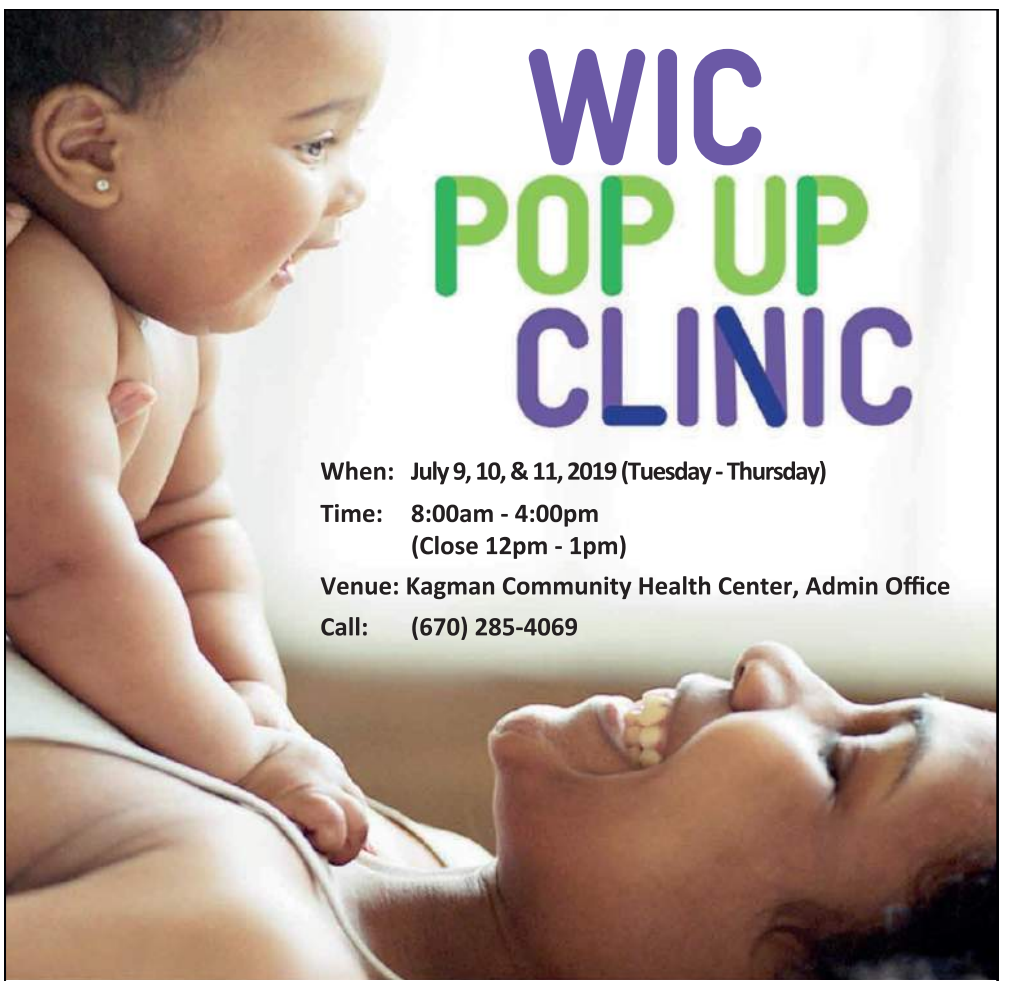




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WIC POP UP CLINIC

When: July 9, 10, & 11, 2019 (Tuesday - Thursday)
Time: 8:00am - 4:00pm
(Close 12pm - 1pm)
Venue: Kagman Community Health Center, Admin Office
Call: (670) 285-4069

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HAPPY 73RD LIBERATION DAY

J.C. TENORIO ENTERPRISES INCORPORATED



Recipients of the 2019 Joeten-Daidai Foundation's scholarship grants pose for a picture with officers of the foundation and Joeten Enterprises and sponsors at the Joeten Susupe main office last Tuesday.
MARC A. VENUS

The Joeten Daidai Foundation awards eight scholarships

By MARC A. VENUS
marc_venus@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Eight high school graduates who will soon head to college were awarded scholarship grants by the Joeten Daidai Foundation last Tuesday at the Joeten Susupe main office. A total of $16,000 in scholarship funds were awarded. Each recipient received $2,000 to assist them with college funds.

With an increase in the number of scholarship applicants, the Joeten Daidai Foundation selected eight recipients this year.

Among the eight recipients, five were selected from Saipan, one each from Tinian and Rota, and one slot for a child of an employee of one of Joeten's subsidiaries or affiliates.

This year's recipients are Reica Ramirez (Mount Carmel School), Maria Elizabeth Waldo (Marianas High School), Ruth Park (Saipan Southern High School), Angelo Manese (Mount Carmel School), Kelvin Wolf (Marianas High School), Lesley A. Mahilum (Tinian Jr./Sr. High School), and Mariette Barcinas (Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Junior/Senior High School). Manese received the Joeten affiliate/subsidiary scholarship award; both his parents have worked for Joeten Enterprises for over 20 years.

The messages of former Joeten Daidai Scholarship recipients Shana Mafnas and Brittney Hamilton were read at Tuesday's presentation of winners. Mafnas told the winners to cherish the memories of high school and appreciate all the support that is given them. Hamilton wrote that the scholars should not be afraid to ask questions and to try new things, as they may benefit from them in the long run.

The new scholars were chosen by the board of directors based on their grade point average, community involvement, extracurricular activities, and academic excellence. Additionally, each student was tasked to write an essay on a quote from Thomas Edison, "Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one time."

Ramirez will be double majoring in Media Studies and Political Sciences at the University of California, Berkeley; Waldo will be majoring in Nursing at the University of Guam; Park will be majoring in Human Biology at the San Diego Mesa College; Manese plans to major in Accounting or Computer Sciences at the University of Guam.

Mahilum's father was present to receive the award on her behalf, while Wolf and Barcinas were unable to make the event.

Established in 1994, the Joeten Daidai Foundation is the philanthropic arm of Joeten Enterprises and started off as a vision of the late Jose "Joeten" C. Tenorio and his wife Daidai Tenorio to give back to the community. The foundation is supported by Joeten affiliates, business partners, and friends.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Water service interruption in Garapan

There will be a scheduled water service interruption in the Garapan Hotel Street area on Friday, July 5, 2019, from 8:30am to 3:30pm, particularly for Commonwealth Utilities Corp. customers between Hanamitsu Hotel and GIG Disco & Bossano Bar.

This will allow CUC's water operations personnel to perform repairs on a damaged water line located on Date Street in Garapan (behind GIG). Water operations personnel will begin the necessary repairs the morning of July 5 and expect to be done by midafternoon. Customers in the affected areas should expect restoration of services soon after. As a result of the repair, a more reliable water system will be provided to the community.

Both lanes between Hanamitsu and GIG will be closed.

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor its Facebook page for the latest updates (https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/). ***(PR)***

USCIS reps at July SHRM meeting

The next general membership meeting of the Society for Human Resource Management NMI Chapter will feature U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services representatives who will talk about the E-Verify program and form I-9.

Rea Bisa, USCIS management and program analyst, Kamana Mathur, USCIS community relations officer, and Jennifer Lane, regional community relations lead, will be at the meeting, which will consist of a 30-minute presentation followed by a 30-minute question-and-answer session.

The SHRM meeting will take place on Thursday, July 11, 2019, at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's ballroom beginning at 11am.

This meeting is open to the public. The presentation includes a lunch buffet at the cost of $20 for SHRM members and $30 for non-members. Seats are limited, so reserve your seat by contacting Penny Jones by e-mail at penelope.jones@hyatt.com or Denise Montenegro at denise.montenegro@hyatt.com or by telephone at 323-5867/68. ***(PR)***

CHamoru commission meetings

The Kumisión i Fino› CHamoru yan i Fina›nå›guen i Historia yan i Lina›la› Taotao Tåno› (Commission on CHamoru Language and the Teaching of History and Culture of the Indigenous People of Guam) will hold its monthly meetings on July 11 and 25, 2019, 12:30pm to 3pm at the Kumision office, The Garden House, Plasa de Espana, Hagatna.

A work session will be held on Thursday, July 18, 2019, from 12:30pm to 3pm, at the same venue to discuss the GDOE CHamoru Language Teachers CHamoru Language Orthography.

For further information call commission chair Hope Alvarez Cristobal at 483-0097 or secretary Rosa Salas Palomo at 727-5522. ***(PR)***

One month left to apply for SBA disaster loans

Small businesses in the CNMI only have until July 26, 2019, to apply for a U.S. Small Business Administration federal disaster loan for economic injury caused by Super Typhoon Yutu that occurred Oct. 24-26, 2018. Small nonfarm businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture and most private nonprofit organizations of any size may apply for Economic Injury Disaster Loans of up to $2 million to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. The interest rate is 3.675 percent for businesses and 2.5 percent for private nonprofit organizations with terms up to 30 years. Loan amounts and terms are set by SBA and are based on each applicant's financial condition. Applicants may apply online, receive additional disaster assistance information and download applications at https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela. Applicants may also call SBA's Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955 or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov for more information on SBA disaster assistance. Individuals who are deaf or hardofhearing may call (800) 877-8339. Completed applications should be mailed to U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155. ***(PR)***

SCC meeting next Wednesday

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will have its monthly general membership meeting next Wednesday, July 10, at Hyatt Regency Saipan ballroom, featuring Kamana Mathur of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

The luncheon begins at 11:30am and with the meeting portion starting promptly at noon. Cost is $25 for Chamber members/$35 for non-members. To RSVP six or more attendees, email Mercilynn Kaneshi Palec at administrator@saipanchamber.com, call 234-7150, or visit the third floor of the Marianas Business Plaza, Suite 315 in Susupe. ***(PR)***

Bank of Guam Saipan branches will be closed July 13, not July 6

Bank of Guam's Saipan branches will be closed for one day on Saturday, July 13, 2019, rather than earlier announced for July 6, 2019. The bank's ATMS, online banking and customer support centers remain available. ***(PR)***

Military open ocean training

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. Navy will conduct open-ocean exercises today, July 4, from 7am to 2pm, within a 10-nautical-mile radius of the following coordinates: 15˚00"N/148˚44"E. It is recommended the public, fishermen, and marine tour operators monitor the Coast Guard broadcast notice to mariners for advisories. ***(PR)***

Sewage odor in areas surrounding Sadog Tasi treatment plant

There is currently a sewage odor in the Sadog Tasi, Puerto Rico, Lower Base, Lower Navy Hill and Garapan areas that is expected to continue intermittently throughout the months of July, August and September 2019.

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. is also planning on a series of rehabilitative improvements to the treatment process over the next year which will be critical for the long-term viability of the plant to handle the large amount of new development on the island. The outcome of those improvements will be an odor-free treatment facility.

At present, the cause of the sewer odor is due to the activation of the temporary clarifier at the Sadog Tasi Treatment Plant and the startup of the digester aerator unit following a draw down or decanting of excess effluent. The temporary clarifier needs to allow additional sludge to build a sludge layer on the bottom of the basin to properly capture and draw the waste sludge from the unit. This process may take up to three months or more, depending on the timing of the treatment process changes. As a result, there will be reduced odors and improved effluent quality once it goes operational.

CUC is also working on lessening the odor around the treatment plant to prevent emission of the odor to the neighboring areas.

"We will be looking at alternatives for masking the smell of the treatment process which is not hazardous to you, just unpleasant to smell," said CUC in a statement yesterday. "CUC appreciates the public's patience throughout this sewage process and will continue to work diligently to minimize any inconvenience to its customers."

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282). ***(PR)***



Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXIX, Issue No.131

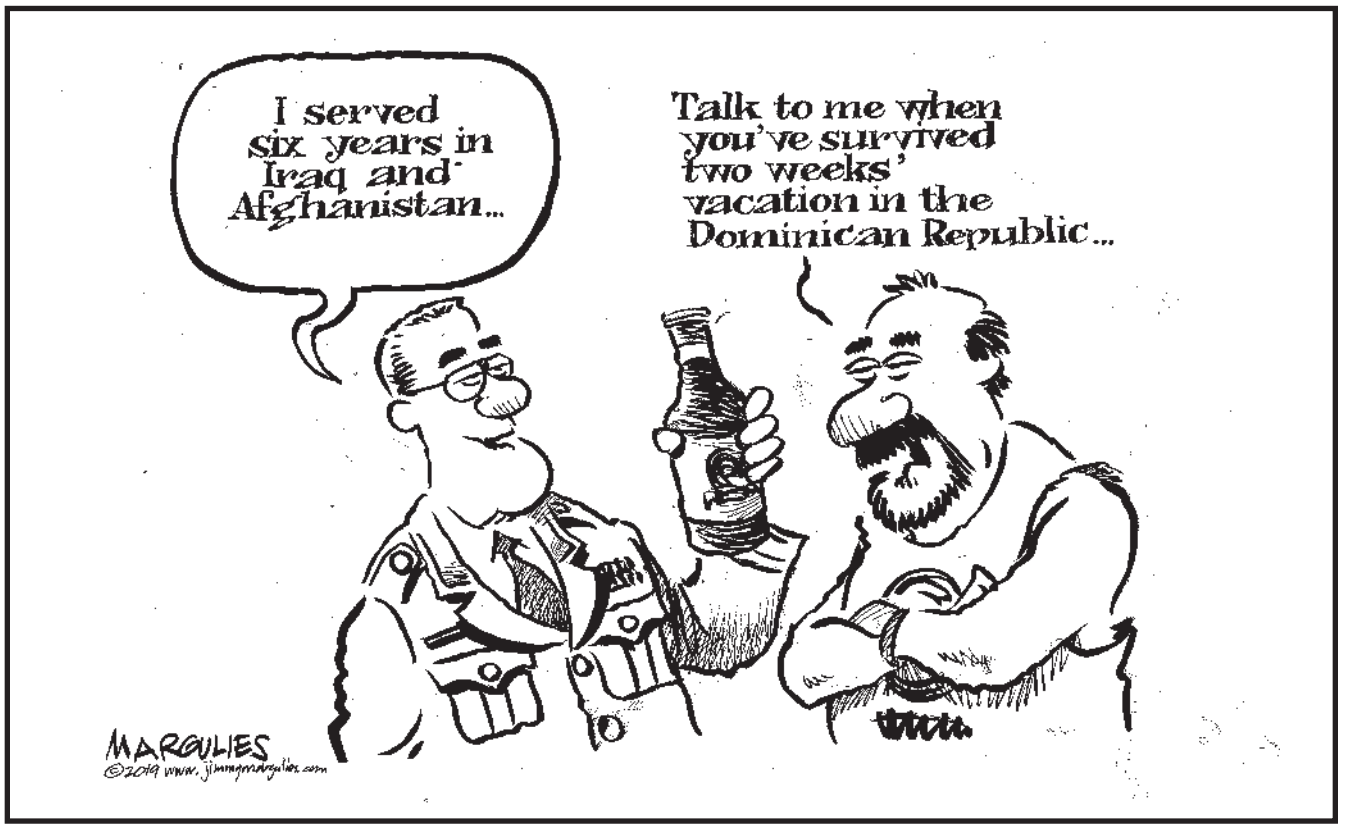
Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

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EDITORIAL

Immigration solutions needed at the border

Toddlers without diapers. Children as young as 7 caring for infants they just met. Soap and toothpaste nowhere to be found. Dangerous overcrowding. Illnesses spreading. A father and daughter drowning.

This is the agonizing humanitarian catastrophe at the U.S.-Mexico border. President Trump did not cause it; a huge flow of desperate people, mostly from El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala, did. But the president's punishing primal-scream response has exacerbated the misery.

Our great nation is a beacon to people from around the world. Right now, they are arriving by the thousands from the Southern Triangle, fleeing gang violence, domestic violence, chaos and bad economic conditions. When they reach the border, they typically request asylum.

Not all qualify; indeed, many surely do not. But under international and U.S. law, all are owed a hearing. Instead, today, men and women and children languish in unfit detention facilities for weeks and months on end, and the anguish only mounts.

This is not a choice between orderly and open borders, as the president pretends. It is a choice between humane and decent management of a problem and a juvenile, ideological refusal to wrestle honestly with it in hopes that it can be shouted away.

Congressional Democrats, who just agreed with Republicans on a necessary short-term humanitarian aid package, are offering a sane long-term way forward. They would:

- create new avenues for migrants to apply for refugee status elsewhere, rather than converging on the border.
- invest in a crushingly overwhelmed immigration court system, which has exhausted its capacity to process people and make swift judgments about whether they deserve asylum.
- expand programs to track asylum seekers while they await hearings.
- codify into law better humanitarian standards, including access to recreation time, basic supplies and child-welfare services.
- and invest in Central America to fix the problems fueling the outflow, not petulantly cut off aid as Trump has done.

On the campaign trail, many would-be presidents have coalesced behind making border-crossing a civil rather than a criminal violation. That wouldn't rationalize the flow; it would invite it to grow.

(c)2019 New York Daily News

Over there: Trump stoops still lower

In all the years since Teddy Roosevelt became the first White House resident to travel overseas while in office, presidents have represented the nation in foreign lands with dignity and above the partisan fray. And then there's Donald Trump.

In Japan for an international summit, he palled around with Russia's president for life Vladimir Putin before the cameras: "Fake news is a great term, isn't it? You don't

See OVER on Next Page

'How did we allow these things to happen?'

By REKHA BASU
Des Moines Register

Rekha Basu is a columnist for the Des Moines Register. *Readers may send her email at rbasu@dmreg.com.*



Even before the harrowing stories from a migrant child detention center in Clint, Texas, came out, a debate was brewing about the ethics of local organizations helping facilitate the federal government's policies to detain children.

The issue arose over a grant proposal a refugee services agency, Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) was writing to house child detainees seized at the border. It proposed to use space in a couple of its residential treatment centers for children with behavioral difficulties.

Some Latino-community advocates and service providers cried foul after attending a meeting with an agency official.

One was Maria Alcivar, an immigrant rights advocate who attended for the Latino organization, LULAC. "The more we give government the option to continue to detain children at the border, the less it's going to stop," she said. "The community here ... believe(s) this is a government-made crisis and now other folks with good intentions are trying to profit from grants by participating in the situation."

Among the concerns local leaders expressed over the proposal were whether LSI could find the requisite 127 staff who speak Spanish, how it would ensure the children were legally represented, and how community stakeholder groups would be kept informed and involved.

The community push-back from that June 7 meeting was enough for LSI to abandon the plan, according to its Director of Refugee Services Nicholas Wuertz. In an e-mail, he wrote that the agency wants to "ensure any response would include a unified group of stakeholders." But he said LSI continues to look for alternative ways to be involved with those children "in alignment with our mission to provide compassionate service."

Wuertz says he isn't working on another specific proposal, but wants to work on alternatives to large-scale shelter facilities.

But the community grapples with how complicit local service agencies should be in helping the federal government carry out a deplorable federal policy.

Claudia Thrane, who co-founded the podcast "Que Pasa, Iowa?" is distrustful. "They can make money," she said of the grant proposal. "But do they want to help our community?"

In an e-mail, Wuertz said his agency "absolutely opposes the separation of children from their families." He said the population they sought to serve was migrant children who arrived unaccompanied, seeking reunification with a parent or guardian already living in the U.S. They are not the children forcibly separated from their parents at the border.

He said he was approached to apply for the grant by the national parent organization, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services. Its website also says it "Stands firmly in opposition to detaining children and families."

Wuertz said LSI employs bilingual, multilingual, and bicultural staff in many services, and "we are actively working to employ a diverse workforce." However, its work with foreign-born people has been primarily helping legal refugees from Africa, Southeast Asia and the Middle East adjust to negotiating systems and services here. That's a far cry from guarding children who lack English skills.

The argument might be made that these grants are administered not by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security but by the Office of Refugee Resettlement under the Department of Health and Human Services. That is not part of Customs and Border Protection, whose acting commissioner, John Sanders, resigned last week in the wake of the scandalous conditions reported at the Texas detention center. HHS says it is seeking the least restrictive environments for housing children, including state-licensed shelters, group homes and transitional foster care. But the difference is academic. The systems still work hand in hand.

The HHS website says children placed with foster families will not attend local schools, and the families are responsible for providing their education "at a central location, operated and run by care provider staff." They will remain detained until they are released from custody, turn 18 or are deported.

That's inhumane and unacceptable by any measure.

"Under no circumstances should those kids be detained," said Jeannette Brown, who chairs Iowa's Latino Affairs Commission.

"What we have is a humanitarian crisis at the border," said Erica Johnson of the American Friends Services Committee, who has been involved in the discussions. "Asylum seekers are refugees. They should not be detained. "

What the federal government should do is treat people as refugees, she said, suggesting a possible role for the 15 sanctuary churches around Iowa which take in people fearing deportation. She said the Church World Service, another advocacy and refugee resettlement organization, has declared it will not be a party to this system.

"One day history will look back and say, 'How did we allow these things to happen?'" said Jennifer Ulie-Wells, who works with schools to serve children's mental health needs through her nonprofit organization.

How, indeed? First, by manufacturing a fake crisis at the border to play to a political base looking for a promised border wall.

Then by implementing a zero tolerance policy for border crossers and changing the rules for admission and for treatment of children. Then it's a short jump to caging them.

That's what Americans should show zero tolerance for. As Brown puts it, "Five people don't have a voice but 500 people do."

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Taking back the flag this Fourth of July



By JAN ZAUZMER
The Baltimore Sun



Jan Zauzmer is a writer who plans to sit on a red-white-and-blue blanket while watching fireworks this Fourth of July.

On a recent trip to the craft store, I picked out a blanket printed with the Stars and Stripes—but not without hesitation. Does Americana-covered fleece lean Republican? I debated. In the end, I bought the blanket, along with the theory that our symbols belong to us all.

Though conceived as a national emblem, Old Glory has played its part in partisan politics throughout American history. More often than not, it is conservatives who have draped themselves in the flag—a phenomenon that has intensified as of late.

Nowadays, Republicans are holding the flag hostage, alongside its values. This takeover of the literal fabric of our nation is ripping apart the figurative fabric. And the grab for ownership does not stop with the iconic cloth that waves on poles and adorns podiums and appliques T-shirts. It readily extends to the "Star-Spangled Banner," which pays exquisite tribute to those "broad stripes and bright stars ... so gallantly streaming," and to the troops, who valiantly defend the honor proclaimed by the bunting and banners.

When the White House tweets a photo of President Donald Trump hugging a flag, the subtext is that his party has a lock on patriotism. When Vice President Pence shows up at an NFL game only to exit after players kneel during the opening anthem, the message is that the song is inviolate but the First Amendment is not. And when the president seizes the spotlight at the Lincoln Memorial this Fourth of July, the goal is to hijack a bipartisan holiday.

A senior adviser to the president's campaign writes, "The increasingly tolerated celebration of disrespect for American symbols and recasting of the founding generation that endowed us with the flag cuts against the core of President Trump's value system." The president says, "Megan (Rapinoe) should never disrespect our Country, the White House, or our Flag...." These statements, like scores of similar ones, are red flags that something insidious is going on.

Co-opting sources of communal inspiration is a potent tool for remaking politics. By lassoing American images for their own purposes, conservatives seek to make their liberal neighbors feel like intruders in their own home. When Republicans boast about how much they respect the flag, their aim is to brand Democrats as unpatriotic. When the GOP—more OP than G—hoists the flag to embrace the military and law enforcement, they want the Dems to cede these points of pride to them.

But real patriotism is humble. As George M. Cohan penned, "there's never a boast or brag" when it comes to the "grand old flag." To be sure, theater's most acclaimed patriot had a gift for rhyme, but beyond that, the sentiment of unpretentious sincerity rings true.

America's flag stands for its highest ideals. Freedom, equality, diversity, tolerance and justice—those are the foundations on which the imagery rests. Rather than hearkening back to some mythical great time in American history, the nation's precepts are aspirational in nature, guiding and prodding us ever onward to form a more perfect union.

This administration's practices are incompatible with patriotism, no matter how many flags are grabbed or anthems belted or monumental rallies held. Separating families, attacking the media, hurling insults, enacting tax cuts for the wealthiest tier at the expense of those in dire straits, turning a blind eye to the dangers of climate change—the litany of wrongdoings just cannot be explained by love of country when it smacks of love of self.

True devotion to one's country looks more like casting a ballot, contacting a legislator, marching in protest or writing a letter to the editor in support of laws that lift up the poor, assist the disabled, insure the sick, protect future generations and expand voting rights, even if and especially if the activist does not stand to benefit personally.

Let us draw inspiration from our tricolored flag. Rather than a red nation or a white nation or a blue nation, this country lives its best life as a stirring union of red and white and blue, more glorious together than apart.

No party has a monopoly on displaying the flag to display patriotism. Singing along, taking a knee, rallying around heroes and advocating for systemic reforms are all as American as apple pie.

In response to the right wing's attempts to wrest our nation's symbols for themselves, the left must not be left out. Festooned in liberty and sparkling with promise, Independence Day should serve as a reminder to fed-up and forward-looking Americans to recapture the flag.

Food for Thought on Independence Day

"Observe good faith and justice toward all nations. Cultivate peace and harmony with all."

—George Washington, 1st POTUS

LITERARY NOOK

By JOEY 'PEPE BATBON' CONNOLLY
Special to the Saipan Tribune



Joey "Pepe Batbon" Connolly is a retired teacher and has been named a poet laureate of Tinian. He has taught English in CNMI public schools for the past 30 years. He has also taught in Alaska, New Orleans, and Las Vegas.

Hamburgs and hotdogs are great for summerlong barbecues. Here are poems about them with Independence Day views and a sonnet parody I wrote sung to the tune of *You Ain't* Nothing *But a Hound Dog*, a popular 1950's song recorded by Big Mama Thornton and Elvis Presley.

You Ain't Nothin' But a Hamburg

You ain't nothin but a hamburg, frying all the time
you ain't nothin but a hamburg, frying all the time
nothing but a hamburger sizzling in the fast food line.
Well, they said you were lowfat, that was just a lie
they said you was lowfat, that was just a pack of lies
wannabe lowfat get rid of them buns, shake and fries.
You ain't nothin but a hamburg, frying all the time
you ain't nothin but a hamburg just a frying all the time
nothin but a hamburger with a cheese slice on your mind.
You ain't nothin but a hamburg, crying all the time
you ain't nothin but a hamburg, just a crying all the time
little baby burger those onions got you cryin' all the time.
You ain't nothing but a hamburger, just a grilling all the time
flip it over quarter pounder there's some hot dogs next in line.

"My favorite meat is a hotdog, by the way. That is my favorite meat. My second favorite meat is hamburger. And, everyone says, 'Oh, don't you prefer steak?' It's like, I know steaks are best, but I like hotdog best, and I like hamburger next best."

—Mitt Romney, U.S. senator, Utah

A Hotdog Returns Dyspeptic Heartburn

They sold me, right after I cooked, because my smell
to them seemed piquant and delicious in the air
that aroma slowly wafting everywhere
with its warm succulent fragrance casting a spell
all around until no nose would have a nostril
that had not had its nasal passages stirred.
Then its neural receptors in the grey matter
sent everyone a most mouthwatering message
from me. Pile those hot dogs high on the platter.
But this boiled world is not my only visage.
Indeed one might say this Frankfurter sometimes frys
I should acknowledge my Viennese heritage
and love for my Italian and Polish sausage allies.
Perhaps, once, with sweet relish, I dreamed of mustard.

Here is some non-caloric brain food for thought: "If the freedom of speech is taken away, then dumb and silent we may be led, like sheep to slaughter."

—George Washington

Independence: Where Did it Send Us

"…the very essence of our interdependence is peace, love, discipline, and tolerance."

—Slinger Francisco aka The Mighty Sparrow

Each 4th of July we celebrate independence, where did it send us
after the Revolutionary War into a terrible bloody tragic Civil War
then into two great World Wars with a great army to defend us
fighting against Japanese Imperialism, German Nazis and more.
Independence sent us on one of the world's great political journeys
towards freedom for all mankind from dictatorship and tyranny
it sent us U.S. citizens in that direction but dictators still abound
and tyrants (both petty and grandiose) still exist the world around.
"What hath God wrought? " used by S.F.B Morse, telegraph inventor
flash forward to the cyber highway with a tweeter leader at the center
our 45th president came into office through the electoral college we now
know about the U.S. Constitution he has a serious lack of knowledge.
Legislative independence sends US Congress members and reporters
to examine the horror of children in detention on the Mexican border.

A final thought from our 16th POTUS, Abraham Lincoln: "Those who deny freedom to others deserve it not themselves."

"So I will say it with relish. Give me a hamburger but hold the lawsuit."

—S.I. Hyakawa, (1906-1992) English professor, president of San Francisco State University, U.S. senator from California, 1977 to 1983

OVER

From Page 10

have this problem in Russia but we do." Vlad answered in English: "We also have. It's the same." (Putin has journalists and other critics killed.)

Then, one of those enemies of the people asked a critical question: whether he would tell Russia not to meddle in American elections.

"Yes, of course I will," said the successor to Lincoln and FDR, goofily grinning with a fake serious voice towards Putin: "Don't meddle in the election, president."

May God please help us next November.

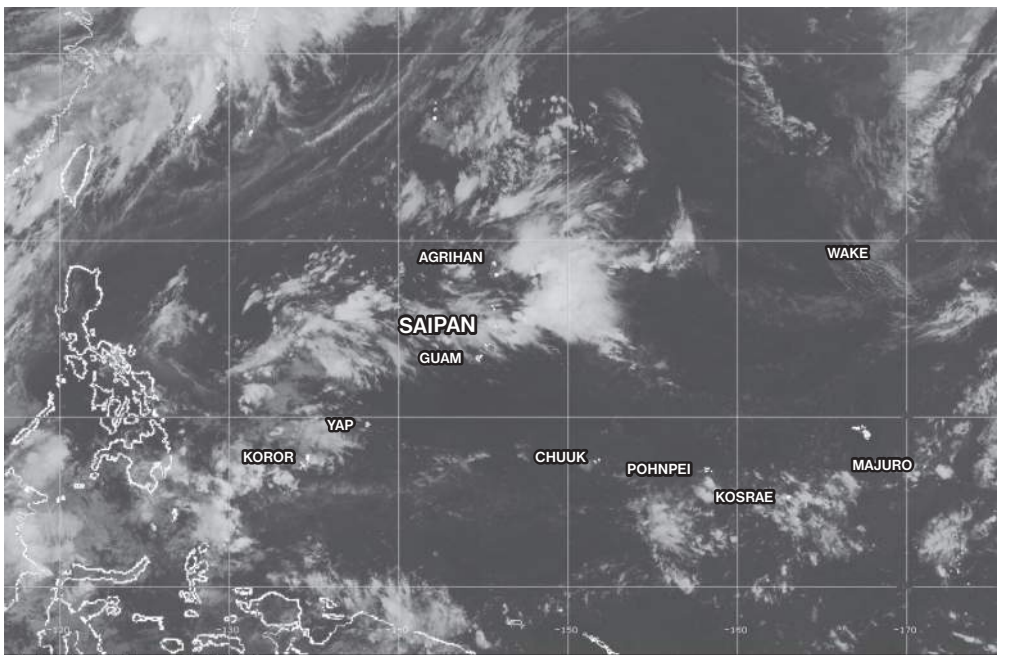
(c)2019 New York Daily News

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
89° 79°	89° 79°	89° 79°	90° 79°	90° 79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 11:57 AM, WEDNESDAY, JULY 3, 2019

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Light winds and dry conditions will persist for a few more days at least. Left afternoon island thunderstorms in for Guam, though winds and moisture will be rather marginal. Took out island storms on Sunday, however, as drying aloft brings precipitable water down to around 1.6 inches, which is unfavorable for thunderstorms.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	88° / 80°
Palau	Thunderstorms	83° / 77°
Yap	Thunderstorms	87° / 80°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	85° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	85° / 77°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	85° / 81°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Showers	55° / 46°
Beijing	Thunderstorms	91° / 72°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	90° / 82°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	86° / 76°
London	Partly Cloudy	79° / 57°
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	76° / 63°
Manila	Thunderstorms	91° / 81°
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	57° / 43°
Miami	Partly Cloudy	89° / 80°
New York	Partly Cloudy	87° / 70°
Osaka	Rain	81° / 73°
Paris	Partly Cloudy	77° / 55°
Busan	Mostly Cloudy	79° / 70°
Rome	Sunny	93° / 70°
Salem	Thunderstorms	95° / 75°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	62° / 52°
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	93° / 70°
Tokyo	Rain	77° / 68°
Washington, DC	Thunderstorms	90° / 75°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
2:43 AM	LOW TIDE	1.44
7:32 AM	HIGH TIDE	2.19
2:59 PM	LOW TIDE	-0.36
10:08 PM	HIGH TIDE	2.19

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:51 AM	6:51 PM
Friday	5:51 AM	6:51 PM
Saturday	5:51 AM	6:51 PM
Sunday	5:52 AM	6:51 PM
Monday	5:52 AM	6:51 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	6:59 AM	8:19 PM	-
Friday	8:03 AM	9:14 PM	-
Saturday	9:06 AM	10:06 PM	-
Sunday	10:06 AM	10:54 PM	-
Monday	11:05 AM	11:39 PM	-

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SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 2, 2019

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	9:15am	10:00am	Daily
UA105	6:25pm	7:05pm	2, 4

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 3, 5, 7
7C3451	3:30am	6:30am	4

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	1:35am	5:20am	Daily
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:35am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3403	5:10am	8:55am	1, 7
7C3401	4:10pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:50am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:30am	12:05pm	1
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA117/183	9:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA117/183	9:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA117/193	9:15am	10:40pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:35am	8:25am	1
UO43	5:50am	8:40am	3, 5, 7
UA117/159	9:15am	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	7:30am	8:15am	Daily
UA104	4:50pm	5:31pm	2, 4

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	2, 4, 6, 7
7C3452	9:35pm	2:30am+1	3

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	09:30am	3:10pm	Daily
TW307	7:00pm	12:35am+1	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
7C3404	10:40pm	4:10am+1	6, 7

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:50am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD395	8:50pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:50pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA192/174	9:45pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA184/174	10:25pm	8:12am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/174	11:30pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:20pm	00:30am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:25pm	1:20am+1	7
UO42	9:25pm	4:20am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/174	10:45pm	8:12am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

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Business

Myungrang Hotdogs soft opening today

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATED EDITOR



Myungrang Hotdog will hold its soft opening today at I Love Saipan in Garapan. MARK RABAGO



One of South Korea's famous hotdog franchises will debut on Saipan today, when Myungrang Hotdogs makes its soft opening at I Love Saipan in Garapan, just in time for the Fourth of July.

AC Pacific LLC president Alex B.K. Youn said the franchise is already popular in Asia, with over 650 stores in South Korea and branches in Japan, Cambodia, and now Saipan. It also has stores in Los Angeles, California. AC Pacific owns and operates I Love Saipan and the I Love Saipan Outlet Store in Gualo Rai.

According to its website, Myungrang (pronounced *myoong-rung*) means cheerful, playful, and bright in Korean and the franchise's marching orders is to "bring a positive and delightful experience for our guests after each bite of our signature hotdogs!"

Unlike the typical hotdog in a bun, I Love Saipan's newest import is a little more challenging to describe; the best way to get an idea of what they do is to actually buy one. One way to portray it is to say that Myungrang deep-fries the hotdog until it is a crispy golden brown, then the hotdog is filled with your choice of mozzarella cheese, squid-ink, potato, etc. Still sounds undescriptive but, again, go buy one so you can see for yourself.

They also have an assortment of dipping sauces to further enhance the flavor of the hotdogs.

Myungrang Hotdogs will be sold at I Love Saipan's "Local Food Market" where it will replace the snack joint's hamburger, pizza, fries, fried chicken, and other fast-food offerings.

I Love Saipan's Joel "Prinze" Salvosa said he and two other staff went to South Korea last month to obtain training at Myungrang Hotdogs' headquarters. Joining Salvosa in the nine-day training were Helen Masga and Su Fen Tang.

Salvosa, who is I Love Saipan's F&B Department team leader, said Myungrang Hotdogs will have its grand opening on Sunday, July 7.

Youn also revealed that Myungrang Hotdogs' Saipan branch will unveil a unique flavor only sold on the island, which is a hotdog covered with coconut flakes. He said the new flavor would jive with Saipan's tropical setting and gives tourists and locals alike a taste of the Marianas.

Aside from the coconut flakes-covered hotdog, the rest of the menu of Myungrang Hotdogs Saipan is made up of mozzarella, cheddar and sausage, jumbo, mozzarella and sausage, mozzarella cheddar, potato, and potato with all mozzarella.

Salvosa said fellow team leader, Manny Calilap, will be in charge of running Myungrang Hotdogs Saipan's operations.

Former Chrysler CEO Lee Iacocca has died at age 94

DETROIT (AP)—Lee Iacocca, the auto executive and master pitchman who put the Mustang in Ford's lineup in the 1960s and became a corporate folk hero when he resurrected Chrysler 20 years later, has died in Bel Air, California. He was 94.

Two former Chrysler executives who worked with him, Bud Liebler, the company's former spokesman, and Bob Lutz, formerly its head of product development, said they were told of the death Tuesday by a close associate of Iacocca's family.

In his 32-year career at Ford and then Chrysler, Iacocca helped launch some of Detroit's best-selling and most significant vehicles, including the minivan, the Chrysler K-cars and the Ford Escort. He also spoke out against what he considered unfair trade practices by Japanese automakers.


Iacocca

The son of Italian immigrants, Iacocca reached a level of celebrity matched by few auto moguls. During the peak of his popularity in the '80s, he was famous for his TV ads and catchy tagline: "If you can find a better car, buy it!" He wrote two best-selling books and was courted as a potential presidential candidate.

But he will be best remembered as the blunt-talking, cigar-chomping Chrysler chief who helped engineer a great corporate turnaround.

Liebler, who worked for Iacocca for a decade, said he had a larger-than-life presence that commanded attention. "He sucked the air out of the room whenever he walked into it," Liebler said. "He always had something to say. He was a leader."

In recent years Iacocca was battling Parkinson's Disease, but Liebler was not sure what caused his death.

Tesla's car deliveries rebound, but challenges still abound

Tesla delivered more electric cars in the second quarter than any three-month period in its history, alleviating concerns that demand is waning for its stylish vehicles as tax incentives in its main U.S. market begin to phase out.

Despite the heartening news Tuesday, Tesla still hasn't proven it can consistently make money despite repeated promises from CEO Elon Musk to reverse the company's long history of losses. And Tesla still must pick up its pace of deliveries during the final half of the year to hit the ambitions target set by Musk.

The company said it handed over 95,200 vehicles to customers worldwide from April through June, breaking its previous quarterly record of 90,700 set during the final three months of last year.

After finishing last year with a flourish, Tesla's sales engine sputtered to start this year. It had only 63,000 deliveries of its Model S, X and 3 vehicles during the first quarter, a 31% drop from last year's fourth quarter that alarmed investors. That slowdown, coupled with ongoing losses that have raised worries about Tesla's financial health , is the main reason that Tesla's stock had plunged by more than 30% so far this year.

The second-quarter delivery numbers triggered a relief rally, causing Tesla's stock to surge nearly 7% to $239.77 in Tuesday's extended trading. ***(PR)***

House committee files lawsuit for Trump tax returns

WASHINGTON (AP)—A House committee sued the Trump administration in federal court Tuesday for access to President Donald Trump's tax returns, setting up a legal showdown over the records.

The House Ways and Means Committee said it needs the documents for an investigation into tax law compliance by the president, among other things. It asked the court to order the administration to turn over the documents.

The lawsuit is the culmination of a long-running fight between Democrats and Trump over the returns, dating back to the 2016 campaign, when Trump claimed that he could not release them due to an IRS audit. The records hold the promise of information that Trump has carefully guarded from public view, including about his business entanglements, relationships with foreign creditors and governments, and the value of his assets.

The committee originally demanded six years of Trump's tax records in early April under a law that says the Internal Revenue Service "shall furnish" the returns of any taxpayer to a handful of top lawmakers. But Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin told the committee in May that he wouldn't be turning over the returns to the Democratic-controlled House.

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
26,786.68	2,973.01	8,109.09
+69.25	+8.68	+17.93
.26%	0.29%	0.22%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.4297	Hong Kong Dollar	7.7959	Russian Ruble	63.4783
British Pound	0.7955	Indian Rupee	68.1883	Singapore Dollar	1.3561
Canadian Dollar	1.3116	Japanese Yen	107.7370	South Korean Won	1150.50
Chinese Yuan	6.7596	Malaysian Ringgit	4.0954	Swiss Franc	0.9862
Euro	0.8866	New Zealand Dollar	1.4968	Taiwan Dollar	30.5595
		Philippine Peso	50.2240	Thailand Baht	30.5225

Nation

Govt photos show detained migrants pleading for help

HOUSTON (AP)—In one photo, one of 88 men in a cell meant for 41 presses a piece of cardboard against the window, with the word "help." In another, a man lowers his head and clasps his hands as if in prayer. And in a third, a woman wearing a surgical mask presses both of her hands against the glass.

The images were released Tuesday by U.S. government inspectors who visited facilities in South Texas where migrant adults and children who crossed the nearby border with Mexico are processed and detained.

As public outrage grows over the conditions in which thousands of people—some no more than a few months old—are being held by the U.S. government, the report offered new cause for alarm. It quotes one senior government manager as calling the situation "a ticking time bomb."

"Specifically, when detainees observed us, they banged on the cell windows, shouted, pressed notes to the window with their time in custody, and gestured to evidence of their time in custody," the report says. BuzzFeed first reported on a draft version of the report, which blurs most faces in the photos.

An autopsy report also released Tuesday confirmed that a 2-year-old child who died in April had multiple intestinal and infectious respiratory diseases, including the flu. Wilmer Josué Ramírez Vásquez is one of five children to die after being detained by border agents since late last year. Two of the other four also had the flu.

The autopsy report says Wilmer was in "respiratory distress" April 6 when he was taken to an emergency room. His grandmother, Dorotea Castillo, told The Associated Press in June that Wilmer was already in delicate health when they left Guatemala, and crossed into the U.S. with a high fever and difficulty breathing.

The Border Patrol said after Wilmer's death that it had detained Wilmer and his mother for three days when she told agents her son was ill. It didn't specify if that was the first report or sign that Wilmer was sick. The agency did not respond to follow-up questions sent Tuesday.

Pediatricians called again on border authorities to accept their offer to provide volunteer medical care to migrants in detention. U.S. Customs and Border Protection rejected the offer. Roger Maier, a CBP spokesman, said anyone who needs medical attention beyond what government and contract staff can provide is taken to a local hospital.

The Border Patrol made 132,887 apprehensions in May, including 84,542 adults and children traveling together. With long-term facilities for adults and children at capacity,



AP

A portion of a report from government auditors reveals images of people penned into overcrowded Border Patrol facilities, photographed Tuesday, July 2, 2019, in Washington.

President Donald Trump's administration has said it has to hold people in unsuitable Border Patrol facilities for much longer than the 72 hours normally allowed by law.

Auditors from the Department of Homeland Security's inspector general visited five facilities and two ports of entry in South Texas' Rio Grande Valley, where more people cross the U.S.-Mexico border illegally than any other section. The dangers there were recently illustrated in images shared around the world showing a young father and daughter who drowned trying to enter the U.S. by crossing the Rio Grande.

Advocates sue to block US policy against children seeking asylum

COLLEGE PARK, Md. (AP)—Advocates for immigrant children are suing to block the Trump administration from enforcing a new policy that they say would erode legal protections for thousands of unaccompanied children seeking asylum in the U.S.

A federal class action filed Monday in Maryland claims a May 31 memorandum issued by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services dramatically curtails asylum provisions for unaccompanied immigrant children.

Plaintiffs' attorneys are seeking a temporary restraining order benefiting all asylum seekers affected by the policy change, which was scheduled to take effect June 30. Their lawsuit claims the memo violates a 2008 law that protects children entering the U.S. without a parent or other legal guardian.

USCIS spokesman Daniel Hetlage said in an email Tuesday that the agency doesn't comment on pending litigation. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security and its acting secretary and USCIS and its acting director are named as defendants in the suit.

Attorneys from Catholic Legal Immigration Network Inc., Kids in Need of Defense, the Goodwin Procter LLP law firm and Public Counsel are representing four children who are named plaintiffs identified only their initials.

Plaintiffs' attorneys believe this is the first case to challenge this new policy, according to Goodwin Procter spokesman Konstantin Shishkin.

Asylum applicants typically must file their petitions within one year of entering the U.S, but the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 exempts unaccompanied children from that deadline, according to the lawsuit. The 2008 law gives unaccompanied children the right to pursue asylum relief through a "child-friendly, non-adversarial process" administered by USCIS, the suit says.



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N A T I O N

ACROSS THE NATION

Judge blocks Trump policy keeping asylum-seekers locked up

SEATTLE (AP)—A federal judge in Seattle on Tuesday blocked a Trump administration policy that would keep thousands of asylum-seekers locked up while they pursue their cases, saying the Constitution demands that such migrants have a chance to be released from custody. U.S. District Judge Marsha Pechman ruled Tuesday that people who are detained after entering the country illegally to seek protection are entitled to bond hearings. Attorney General William Barr announced in April that the government would no longer offer such hearings, but instead keep them in custody. It was part of the administration's efforts to deter a surge of migrants at the U.S.-Mexico border. Pechman said that as people who have entered the U.S., they are entitled to the Fifth Amendment's due-process protections, including "a longstanding prohibition against indefinite civil detention with no opportunity to test its necessity." Immigrant rights advocates including the American Civil Liberties Union and the Northwest Immigrant Rights Project sued to block the policy, which was due to take effect July 15.

Police seek suspects after 2 shot at mall near San Francisco

SAN BRUNO, Calif. (AP)—A shooting that caused panic at a mall near San Francisco left two teens with serious gunshot wounds and led to transit delays during rush hour Tuesday as police stopped a train to search for two suspects, authorities said. Investigators believe the shooters, both "young males," fired at each other with handguns at the Shops at Tanforan in San Bruno, said police Chief Ed Barberini. Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital was treating two teenage boys hit by gunfire, according to spokesman Brent Andrew. One of the victims is critical and the other is in serious condition, he said. Two other people who were hurt were treated and released, but the nature of their injuries was unknown, said San Bruno Fire Chief David Cresta.

Suspected gang member charged with killing USC student

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A suspected gang member was charged Tuesday with killing a University of Southern California music student during an off-campus robbery attempt earlier this year, prosecutors said. Ivan Hernandez, 23, faces one count of murder during an attempted robbery while an active participant in a criminal street gang, said the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office. An attorney for Hernandez could not be located. His arraignment was scheduled for Tuesday afternoon. Prosecutors accuse him of fatally shooting 21-year-old Victor McElhaney on March 10 while the student left a market with friends about a mile (1.6 kilometers) from USC's campus.

Police charge 2nd man in killing of Missouri police officer

ST. LOUIS (AP)—Prosecutors say a second man has been charged in the shooting death of a Missouri police officer. St. Louis County Prosecutor Wesley Bell's announcement of the charge Tuesday came a day after the funeral for North St. Louis County Cooperative Officer Michael Langsdorf. The St. Louis Post-Dispatch reports that 58-year-old Kawynn Smith was charged with second-degree murder in Langsdorf's death. Smith has a murder conviction from 1998. Langsdorf was shot on June 23 while answering a bad check call at a market in the St. Louis County town of Wellston, Missouri.

NTSB: Crew spoke of engine trouble before deadly Texas crash

DALLAS (AP)—Seconds before a small plane crashed at a suburban Dallas airport, killing all 10 people on board, the crew commented on a problem with the left engine, federal officials said Tuesday. The Beechcraft BE-350 King Air struggled to gain altitude before veering to the left and crashing into a hangar Sunday morning at the Addison Municipal Airport, killing a family of four, two couples and two crew members, witnesses and authorities said. A cockpit voice recorder captured the pilots' apparent confusion as the plane headed down the runway, Bruce Landsberg, vice chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board, said Tuesday at a news conference.

Navy SEAL acquitted of murder in killing of captive in Iraq

SAN DIEGO (AP)—A decorated Navy SEAL was acquitted Tuesday of murder in the killing of a wounded Islamic State captive under his care in Iraq in 2017. The verdict was met with an outpouring of emotion as the military jury also cleared Special Operations Chief Edward Gallagher of attempted murder in the shootings of two civilians and all other charges except for posing for photos with the body of the dead captive. The case exposed a generational conflict within the ranks of the elite special operations forces and the outcome dealt a major blow to the prosecution of one of the Navy's most high-profile war crimes cases. He declined to address questions about his SEAL team. His lawyers said he might talk after the jury decides his sentence, which could happen as early as Wednesday.

Montana man pleads guilty in $43 million fraud

NEW YORK (AP)—A Montana man has pleaded guilty to defrauding a Canadian financial institution of $43 million by posing as a legitimate business owner. Todd Capser entered the wire fraud plea in Manhattan federal court Tuesday. Prosecutors say the 47-year-old Billings, Montana, man defrauded a Toronto entity and tried to cheat nine other institutions of millions more. The institution was identified in a lawsuit as Third Eye Capital Corp. U.S. Attorney Geoffrey S. Berman said in a release that Capser posed as a legitimate businessman before flooding the financial institution with false information. Prosecutors say that Capser sought to engender sympathy, deflect questions and explain suspicious behavior by falsely telling some financial institutions that his daughter was dying from cancer. Sentencing was set for Nov. 8.

Man charged with killing pregnant woman, near full-term baby

LEXINGTON, Miss. (AP)—A Mississippi man is charged with two counts of murder after a pregnant woman was killed days before her baby was due. Holmes County Sheriff Willie March says 33-year-old Terrence K. Sample was arrested Monday, hours after the body of 21-year-old Makayla Winston was found. Mississippi is one of 38 states with a fetal homicide law. March says Sample is charged with kidnapping, capital murder for the baby's death and murder for Winston's death. It wasn't clear whether Sample has an attorney. March says Winston's family describes Sample as her boyfriend, and investigators believe Sample also was romantically involved with another woman. March says people saw Winston and Sample together Thursday night, a week before the baby's due date. March says tests will show how and when she was killed.

Asia

Filipino suicide attacker ID'd



In this Friday, June 28, 2019 photo, Philippine troops examine the scene of the suicide attack carried out by Muslim militants at a military camp in Indanan township, on the island of Jolo in Sulu province that killed five people and the bombers in the southern Philippines. AP

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine authorities have identified as a Filipino militant one of two suicide attackers who set off bombs last week that killed five people and the bombers in a southern army camp, a Filipino general said Tuesday.

Maj. Gen. Cirilito Sobejana told The Associated Press that the family of the 23-year-old militant, Norman Lasuca, has identified him as one of the bombers who detonated a bomb on Friday at the gate of an army encampment in Sulu province's Indanan town. The other suicide attacker remains unidentified.

Lasuca is the first known Filipino militant to have agreed to carry out a suicide bombing, a development that has concerned Philippine security officials. Two suicide bombings in the country's south in recent months, also blamed on Sawadjaan, have been blamed on foreign militants by Philippine authorities.

Sobejana said Lasuca left his family in Sulu's Asturias district about five years ago and joined an Abu Sayyaf militant faction under the control of commander Hajan Sawadjaan.

Sawadjaan is an Islamic State group-aligned commander and the suspected mastermind of the suicide attacks, which killed three soldiers, two villagers and the two bombers and damaged the encampment, located in an Indanan community, officials said.

"This is really very tragic for Lasuca's family, his mother. They saw him last five years ago and this is the first time they're only seeing him again," Sobejana said, adding the family has claimed the severed head of the militant and buried it.

Poverty and a lack of education may have driven Lasuca to the Abu Sayyaf, which lures recruits with money and guns, he said.

There were conflicting accounts of the attack. Military officials said earlier that Lasuca managed to dash into the camp after the first militant was stopped at the army camp's gate by soldiers. The first militant detonated his bomb, killing three soldiers at the gate.

After he got past the gate, Lasuca was shot by other soldiers, prompting him to set off his explosive while yelling "Allahu akbar," or God is great, they said. Military chief Gen. Benjamin Madrigal Jr., however, told reporters that Lasuca was the militant who set off his explosive after being stopped outside the camp gate by soldiers.

Lasuca's head was severed by the powerful explosion. The suicide bombings sparked a security alarm, including in the capital, Manila, where police were put on alert.

The other militant has Caucasian features and is suspected to be the son of a foreign jihadist with Moroccan blood who died in a suicide bombing attack in nearby Basilan island last year, Sobejana said.

Interior Secretary Eduardo Ano, who oversees the national police, said, however, that authorities have obtained information indicating the other suicide attacker may also be a Filipino militant from Sulu. Remains of both bombers will be subjected to DNA tests to ascertain their identities, he added.

Battle setbacks have reduced the number of Abu Sayyaf armed fighters to less than 400 but they have remained a national security threat. They were the main suspects in a Jan. 27 bombing of a Roman Catholic cathedral during a Mass that killed 23 people in Sulu's capital town of Jolo.

The cathedral attack by two suspected suicide bombers sparked the current military offensive against the Abu Sayyaf, some commanders of which have pledged allegiance to the Islamic State group.

Abu Sayyaf militants have largely thrived on ransom kidnappings and extortion, although defense officials say they may have received foreign funds, including from the Islamic State group, to finance attacks.

The brutal group has been blacklisted as a terrorist organization by the United States and the Philippines for bombings, ransom kidnappings and beheadings.

World

Airstrike hits migrant detention center in Libya, 40 killed

BENGHAZI, Libya (AP)—An airstrike hit a detention center for migrants early Wednesday in the Libyan capital, killing at least 40 people, a health official in the country's U.N.-supported government said.

The airstrike targeting the detention center in Tripoli's Tajoura neighborhood also wounded 80 migrants, said Malek Merset, a spokesman for the health ministry. Merset posted photos of migrants who were being taken in ambulances to hospitals.

Footage circulating online and said to be from inside the migrant detention center showed blood and body parts mixed with rubble and migrants' belongings.

The U.N. refugee agency in Libya condemned the airstrike on the detention center, which houses 616 migrants and refugees.

The Tripoli-based government blamed the self-styled Libyan National Army, led by Khalifa Hifter, for the airstrike and called for the U.N. support mission in Libya to establish a fact-finding committee to investigate.

A spokesman for Hifter's forces did not immediately answer phone calls and messages seeking comment. Local media reported LNA had launched airstrikes against a militia camp near the detention center.

The LNA launched an offensive against the weak Tripoli-based government in April. Hifter's forces control much of the country's east and south but were dealt a significant blow last week when militias allied with the Tripoli government reclaimed the strategic town of Gharyan, about 100 kilometers (62 miles) from the capital. Gharyan had been a key supply route for the LNA forces.

Many camps for militias loosely allied with the U.N.-supported government are in Tajoura, east of the city center, and Hifter forces have targeted such camps with airstrikes in the past weeks. The LNA said on Monday it had begun an air campaign on rival forces in Tripoli after it lost control of Gharyan.

The fighting for Tripoli has threatened to plunge Libya into another bout of violence on the scale of the 2011 conflict that ousted longtime dictator Moammar Gadhafi and led to his death.

Hifter says he is determined to restore stability to the North African country. He is backed by Egypt, United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia while his rivals, mainly Islamists, in Tripoli are supported by Turkey and Qatar.

His campaign against Islamic militants across Libya since 2014 won him growing international support from world leaders who say they are concerned that Libya has turned into a haven for armed groups, and a major conduit for migrants bound for Europe.

His opponents however view him as an aspiring autocrat and fear a return to one-man rule.

WORLD BRIEFS

Arctic fox walks more than 2,700 miles from Norway to Canada

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP)—An arctic fox walked more than 4,415 kilometers (2,737 miles) to go from northern Norway to Canada's far north in four months, Norwegian researchers said. The Norwegian Polar Institute reported the young female fox left her birth place on Norway's Svalbard archipelago on March 1, 2018 and reached Canada's Ellesmere Island by way of Greenland on July 1, 2018. The ground the small fox cumulatively covered over those four months was among the most ever recorded for an arctic fox seeking a place to settle down and breed, the institute said in a research article subtitled "One female's long run across sea ice." Institute scientists monitored the fox's movements with a satellite tracking device they fitted her with in July 2017 near her native habitat by a glacier on Norway's Spitsbergen island. She stayed close to home then gradually ventured out until she left the island on March 26, 2018. During the walk to Canada, the roughly 2-year-old fox moved at an average rate of 46.3 kilometers per day (28.7 miles per day), the Norwegian scientists said.

Death toll reaches 18 in Siberian floods; 13 missing

MOSCOW (AP)—At least 18 people have died and more than a dozen are still missing in devastating floods that swept southeastern Siberia, Russian authorities said Tuesday. The head of the Emergency Ministry's regional branch, Valentin Nelyubov, gave the updated figures Tuesday. The ministry initially said that 17 people were missing, but later announced that four of them were found and rescued. The search for the remaining 13 is ongoing. The floods that followed torrential rains affected 55 towns and villages in the Irkutsk region. Over 4,000 houses have been flooded, according to the Emergency Ministry. Officials said that 1,258 people have sought medical assistance and 191 of them have been hospitalized. President Vladimir Putin visited the area on Sunday on his way home from the Group of 20 leaders' summit in Japan and ordered the military to join the rescue efforts.

Fire kills 14 Russian sailors aboard deep-sea submersible

MOSCOW (AP)—Fire broke out on one of the Russian navy's deep-sea research submersibles, and toxic fumes from the blaze killed 14 sailors aboard, Russia's Defense Ministry said Tuesday, although it released few details about the disaster or the vessel involved. The Defense Ministry did not say how many sailors were aboard the vessel during Monday's fire, whether there were any survivors or if it was submerged at the time. But Russian media reported it was the country's most secret submersible, a nuclear-powered vessel designed for sensitive missions at great depths. President Vladimir Putin, who came under criticism for his handling of the Kursk nuclear submarine disaster in 2000 that killed 118 sailors, canceled a scheduled appearance and immediately summoned Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu for a briefing on the blaze, which was under investigation. "Fourteen submariners have died of poisoning by fumes from the fire," Shoigu told Putin during a televised meeting. "The fire was extinguished thanks to the crew's resolute action."

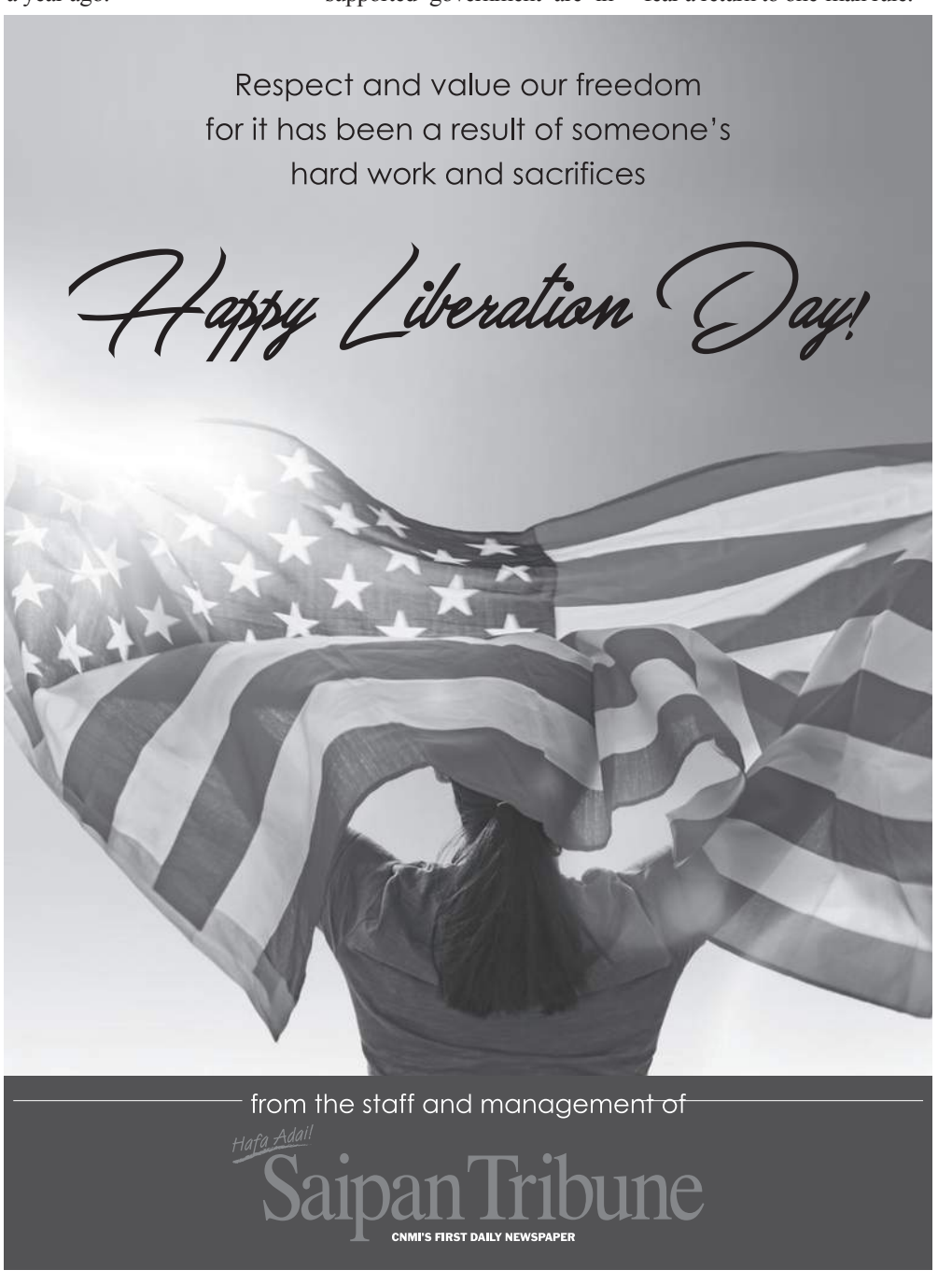
Iranians say US sanctions hurt people, not government

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—While opinions differ across Tehran's Grand Bazaar about the ongoing tensions between the U.S. and Iran over its unraveling nuclear deal, there's one thing those in the beating heart of Iran's capital city agree on: American sanctions hurt the average person, not those in charge. From an English-language teacher hoping for peace to an appliance salesman who applauded President Donald Trump as a "successful businessman," all said they suffered from the economic hardships sparked by reimposed and newly created American sanctions. The Iranian rial's collapse has eaten into the savings of a retired bank clerk, while a young man with a shock of bleached-blond hair says those his age want to leave the country. Iranians spoke to The Associated Press on Tuesday, a day after authorities acknowledged the country had broken through the limit placed on its stockpile of low-enriched uranium by the 2015 nuclear deal. Trump pulled the U.S. out of the deal a year ago.



SOLAR ECLIPSE AP

The moon passes in front of the setting sun during a total solar eclipse in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Tuesday, July 2, 2019. Tens of thousands of tourists and locals gaped skyward Tuesday as a total eclipse of the sun darkened the heavens over Chile and Argentina. Tourists from around the world gathered to witness the cosmic spectacle, which began in the morning as the moon crossed in front of the sun and cast a shadow that passed over a tiny uninhabited atoll in the South Pacific and headed to South America. Chile and Argentina were the only inhabited places where the total eclipse could be seen. The eclipse made its first landfall in Chile at 3:22 p.m. (1922 GMT) in La Serena, a city of some 200,000 people where the arrival of more than 300,000 visitors forced the local water company to increase output and service gas stations to store extra fuel. Police and health services were also reinforced.



Environment



June was Europe's hottest on record as climate change bites

By DUSAN STOJANOVIC and FRANK JORDANS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Youngsters cool off at the public fountain in Minsk, Belarus, Wednesday, June 26, 2019. A heat wave hit the city with temperatures 30C (82 F). AP

BELGRADE, Serbia (AP)—As Europe's heat wave shifted eastward Tuesday, delivering scorching temperatures to Serbia and the rest of the Balkans, new data showed that last month set a new June record for the continent.

Measurements collected by the European Union's Copernicus satellite program revealed Europe's average temperature in June was more than 2 degrees Celsius higher than during the 30-year reference period from 1981 to 2010.

The intense heat toward the end of June also beat the previous Europe-wide record for the month set in 1999 by 1 degree Celsius. France, Switzerland, Austria, Germany, the Czech Republic and Spain all registered new national highs for June, with the southern French town of Gallargues-le-Montueux recording a blistering 45.9 Celsius (114.6 Fahrenheit) on Friday.

In a separate study published Tuesday, an international group of experts who examine the possible link between extreme weather events and climate change warned that Europe faces more frequent and intense heat waves.

After analyzing temperatures in the French city of Toulouse between June 26 and 28 the World Weather Attribution group concluded that every heat wave occurring in Europe today "is made more likely and more intense by human-induced climate change."

They found the extreme conditions measured during that three-day period, when a blast of hot air swept up from the Sahara Desert, are at least five times more likely now than they were around 1900, before greenhouse gas emissions from industry had a major effect on the atmosphere.

Geert Jan van Oldenborgh, a researcher at the Dutch meteorological institute KNMI and one of the report's authors, said factors other than climate change may be further affecting the frequency and extent of extreme temperature events.

The World Weather Attribution study hasn't been peer-reviewed yet, but the group uses methods that are widely considered valid in the scientific community.

Martin Hoerling, a research meteorologist at the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration who wasn't involved in the study, said its findings were consistent with other measurements showing European summers getting hotter since the start of the 20th century.

"Hotter European summers are their climate new normal, though that 'normal' will itself change further," he said.

With the heat wave moving toward eastern Europe, temperatures soared to 39 degrees Celsius (102.2 Fahrenheit) in Serbia on Tuesday, though showers in the evening could provide some relief.

Cisterns with drinking water have been parked in Belgrade parks with doctors warning elderly to stay indoors.

The surge in temperatures comes after weeks of unusually severe thunderstorms in parts of Serbia, Bulgaria, Romania, Bosnia and Croatia that have triggered floods and extreme humidity.

In Germany, thousands of firefighters, soldiers and civil defense personnel were battling a large wildfire Tuesday at a former military exercise area in northern Germany after weeks of dry weather.

Officials said that the blaze in Luebtheen, about 170 kilometers (106 miles) northwest of Berlin, is the biggest in the history of Mecklenburg Western Pomerania state.

Floating Antarctic ice goes from record high to record lows

By SETH BORENSTEIN
AP SCIENCE WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP)—The amount of ice circling Antarctica is suddenly plunging from a record high to record lows, baffling scientists.

Floating ice off the southern continent steadily increased from 1979 and hit a record high in 2014. But three years later, the annual average extent of Antarctic sea ice hit its lowest mark, wiping out three-and-a-half decades of gains—and then some, a NASA study of satellite data shows.

In recent years, "things have been crazy," said Mark Serreze, director of the National Snow and Ice Data Center. In an email, he called the plummeting ice levels "a white-knuckle ride."

Serreze and other outside experts said they don't know if this is a natural blip that will go away or more long-term global warming that is finally catching up with the South Pole. Antarctica hasn't showed as much consistent warming as its northern Arctic cousin.

"But the fact that a change this big can happen in such a short time should be viewed as an indication that the Earth has the potential for significant and rapid change," University of Colorado ice scientist Waleed Abdalati said in an email.

At the polar regions, ice levels grow during the winter and shrink in the summer. Around Antarctica, sea ice averaged 4.9 million square miles (12.8 million square kilometers) in 2014. By 2017, it was a record low of 4.1 million square miles (10.7 million square kilometers, according to the study in Monday's Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

The difference covers an area bigger than the size of Mexico. Losing that much in just three years "is pretty incredible" and faster than anything scientists have seen before, said study author Claire Parkinson, a NASA climate scientist. Antarctic sea ice increased slightly in 2018, but still was the second lowest since 1979. Even though ice is growing this time of year in Antarctica, levels in May and June this year were the lowest on record, eclipsing 2017, according to the ice data center.

Ice melting on the ocean surface doesn't change sea level. Non-scientists who reject mainstream climate science often had pointed at increasing Antarctic sea ice to deny or downplay the loss of Arctic sea ice.

While the Arctic has shown consistent and generally steady warming and ice melt—with some slight year to year variation—Antarctica has had more ups and downs while generally trending upward. That is probably in part due to geography, Parkinson and Serreze said.

The Arctic is a floating ice cap on an ocean penned in by continents. Antarctica is just the opposite, with land surrounded by open ocean. That allows the ice to grow much farther out, Parkinson said.

When Antarctic sea ice was steadily rising, scientists pointed to shifts in wind and pressure patterns, ocean circulation changes or natural but regular climate changes like El Nino and its southern cousins. Now, some of those explanations may not quite fit, making what happens next still a mystery, Parkinson said.

Brazil: Protecting environment not only European 'interest'

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — Brazil's foreign minister said Tuesday that protecting the environment "is not only a European interest" after France said it would ratify a free-trade deal between the European Union and the South American bloc Mercosur only if Brazil respects its commitment to reduce deforestation.

The EU and Mercosur last Friday finalized, after two decades of negotiations, an agreement that would integrate the blocs into a market of 800 million people. But the deal must still be ratified by the legislatures of the countries involved.

The French government said Tuesday that it was yet not ready to ratify the pact, saying Brazil must "respect its commitments" to protecting its rainforest. Before the deal was finalized, French President Emmanuel Macron had said France would not sign if Brazil did not continue within the Paris climate agreement.

Brazilian foreign minister Ernesto Araújo responded to France's comments by saying: "No country is ready to ratify (the agreement) from the constitutional point of view. It must be still submitted to parliament and approved."

Life & Style

‘Golden Girls’ appears to get better with pop culture age

By TERRY TANG
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Alexandra Wilkinson was only 2 months old when “The Golden Girls” ended its television run in 1992.


Wilkinson

But she became a fan last year while taking a course called “Women and Aging: Lessons from the Golden Girls” at California State University, Long Beach. Now she streams episodes on Hulu. She owns a “Golden Girls” T-shirt. And when she graduated recently with a master’s degree in gerontology, she decorated her cap with a picture of “Golden Girl” Sophia along with the sardonic Sicilian’s trademark phrase, “Picture it.”

“I was amazed at how this TV show from before I was born really related to so many topics I’m learning about right now,” said Wilkinson, 27. “It doesn’t even matter what they’re talking about, whether it’s a serious concept or not. Their personalities just have a way of bringing humor into everything.”

The class, which finished its second year in May, is the latest example of the surprising pop culture longevity of Dorothy, Blanche, Rose and Sophia.

The Emmy-winning series revolved around four older women living together in Miami. It starred Bea Arthur, Rue McClanahan, Estelle Getty and Betty White, who is the only living cast member at age 97 (White, through her agent, declined an interview request). The show aired on NBC from 1985-1992.

Just in the last few years, however, there’s been a wave of merchandising, from a trivia game to Chia pets. Funko, known for its Pop dolls of sci-fi and fantasy characters, created “Golden Girls” figures, a limited-edition cereal and, most recently, PEZ dispensers. In 2015, a fan built an unofficial Lego set of the women in their home. Next February, a “Golden Girls” theme cruise will launch from—where else?—Miami.


AP
This Dec. 25, 1985 file photo shows the stars of the television series “The Golden Girls” , from left, Estelle Getty, Rue McClanahan, Bea Arthur and Betty White during a break in taping in Hollywood, Calif.

Marsha Posner Williams, a co-producer on the series’ first three seasons, said the creators simply set out to tell stories about an often-overlooked segment of the population.

“This was a way of showing that even though you might be of a certain age, you’re not dead,” Williams said. “You’re full of life, full of laughter, full of sarcasm and it can be quite joyful.”

Unlike the ‘80s fashions worn in the show, the dialogue still holds up, Williams said, resonating with many people, from the gay community to millennials.

“All the issues are so real that they talk about, even though it was 35 years ago,” she said.

H. Alan Scott of Los Angeles has co-hosted a “Golden Girls” podcast for four years called “Out On the Lanai,” a reference to the patio where the women would often talk. He also stages drag shows as Sadie Pines, a riff on the fictitious Shady Pines retirement home where Sophia used to live.

He calls the show “timeless in a lot of ways because they weren’t necessarily topical in the jokes they did.”

Maria Claver, a gerontology professor who created the CSU Long Beach class with colleague Long Wang in spring 2018, thinks nostalgia is one reason “The Golden Girls” endures. Many fans who watched when it originally aired are now in or facing their golden years. And the episodes have been helpful illustrations for her students.

“I think one of the strengths of using a show like ‘Golden Girls’ is that you can address sometimes uncomfortable or difficult topics with humor,” Claver said. “I think that makes students comfortable to talk about things like sexuality among older women.”

The weekly class touched on subjects like menopause, addiction, sexuality, dementia and caregiving. Claver and Wang would screen a relevant episode and then lead a discussion. There were guest speakers, including Williams.

As a super-fan, Claver also can’t help but delight in turning students on to the show’s entertainment value.

“It is a thrill to introduce it to some of the younger students and by the end of the semester, they’re like ‘Omigosh, I’m totally a Dorothy,’” Claver said.

Wilkinson, the recent grad, said she can laugh along even when she has no idea who a guest star like Burt Reynolds is.

“Of course there are references I don’t quite understand. Like they’ll mention a musician or they’ll mention an actor I’ve never heard of,” Wilkinson said. “But for some reason, the way they deliver it is hilarious.”

Williams loves that “Golden Girls” keeps finding a new audience.

“We all do projects that we wish our names were not on,” she said. “But, if you’re lucky, you have one in your career that you’re so fricking proud to be associated with.”

7 arrested in vandalism of Chicago’s ‘Bean,’ memorial garden

CHICAGO (AP)—Charges were pending Tuesday against seven people suspected of spray-painting graffiti on two downtown Chicago landmarks including the popular giant metallic sculpture known as “The Bean,” police said.

The sculpture in Millennium Park was vandalized late Monday and the suspects were arrested a short time later, Chicago police said. The sculpture’s stainless-steel reflective surface was marked with “35th Crew” in silver lettering near the bottom along with other markings.

Memorial walls in the Cancer Survivors’ Garden in nearby Maggie Daley Park also were vandalized.

Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot expressed outrage.

“Look, there are some things that should be sacred. Millennium Park and the Bean have been an important, iconic part of who we are as Chicago from the time that that park opened,” she said, according to the Chicago Sun-Times. “It is unbelievably unacceptable for people to be defacing something like that.”

Lightfoot said graffiti and gang markings “spread fear in the hearts of people” and shouldn’t be tolerated. Crews were in the process of removing the graffiti, according to the city’s Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events.

The sculpture by artist Anish Kapoor is formally known as “Cloud Gate” and weighs 110 tons (100 metric tons). It is 66-feet (20-meters) long and sits in a plaza just off Michigan Avenue.

Lines are drawn in family feud over recovering addict

DEAR ABBY: My stepbrother "Pete" is a recovering addict who did significant prison time for possession and gang affiliations. He has also had multiple DUI convictions. He's been out for two years and is holding a job and taking care of his kids part-time.

My parents think he's completely rehabilitated, but I think he's using again, based on his behavior. He has tried to get my husband to give him some of a prescription medication he takes, and jokes about "acting good" when with family but not at home.

I decided I no longer want to be around Pete, particularly with my children, and I asked my parents not to have him over while we are visiting. They said they understood, but the last time we went for a weekend, Pete was there with his son, and it was really uncomfortable. Now they say they just want us to all get along and that I'm "snobby" for wanting to exclude Pete.

I have reached a point where I'm no longer willing to visit them because I can't trust them. They won't come to my house, but are mad at me for "withholding their grandkids from them" (their words) and "breaking up the family." What are my obligations in this situation, and is it reasonable to insist we visit without Pete? I hate to make them choose, but I also feel like this is a safety issue.

UNCOMFORTABLE IN MINNESOTA

DEAR UNCOMFORTABLE: As a parent, you have to do what you think is best for your children. I wish you had explained your parents' reason for not visiting your home, because it appears to be manipulative and a means of punishing you for sticking to your guns.

Given the fact that Pete has tried to convince your husband to share his scheduled medications and has bragged about "acting good" when with family, you are doing the right thing.

DEAR ABBY: My sister—age 57—has terrible table manners. We live three hours apart but get together every two or three months to enjoy each other's company.

Recently, we went to a nice restaurant, and she let out a loud, obnoxious, disgusting burp. I was surprised and embarrassed. She quickly apologized. I said, "Can't you lower the volume and cover your mouth?" She became defensive and said, "I apologized!"

Her burping happens often, but this one was beyond the pale. I don't like it, never have. How do I communicate to her effectively to burp quietly and in a controlled manner?

DISGUSTED IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR DISGUSTED: I think you have already done that. Is it possible your sister suffers from a gastrointestinal disorder? If she hasn't brought this to the attention of her doctor, she should.

If, however, there is nothing physically wrong with her, you may be happier having your meals in a different kind of restaurant—a loud, casual burger joint or a sports bar where no one will notice her problem while rooting for the home team.

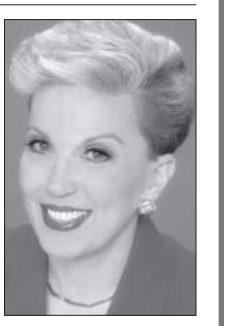
DEAR READERS: Have a very happy and healthy Fourth of July, everyone. And please be safe!

LOVE, ABBY

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

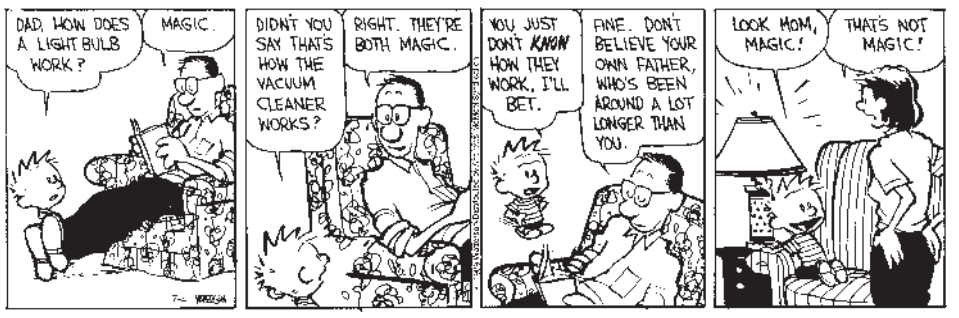


Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



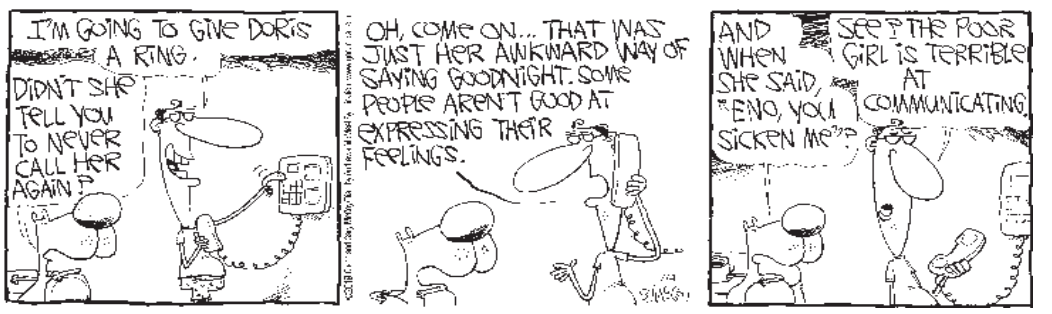
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

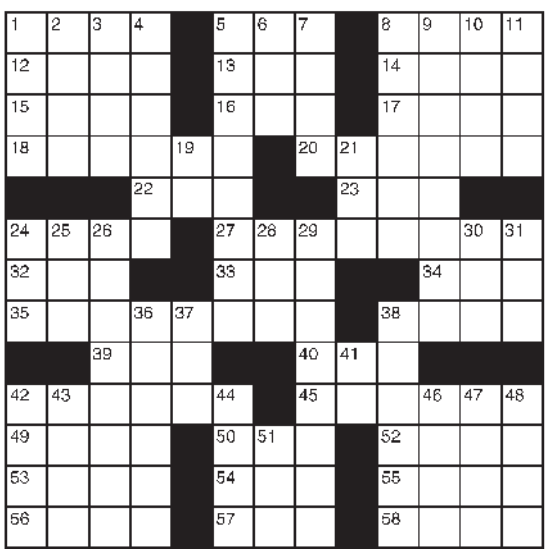
ACROSS
1 "Believe" singer
5 Deli meat
8 Aspiring atty.'s exam
12 Wander
13 Altar affirmative
14 Jazzy Fitzgerald
15 Raw materials
16 Scary cry
17 Equipment
18 Italian sandwich
20 Least common
22 "Mayday!"
23 Gym unit
24 Beer ingredient
27 Forensics facility
32 Epoch
33 Former Mideast org.
34 — standstill
35 Diagnostic procedures
38 With skill
39 "East of Eden" brother
40 Play part
42 Pub perches
45 Drywall material
49 Spiced tea
50 Salt Lake athlete
52 Earring site
53 — and crafts
54 Brooch
55 Throat clearer
56 Oxidation result
57 Plopped down
58 Days gone by

DOWN
1 Field yield
2 Circle dance
3 Squared
4 Defy
5 Tropical flower
6 Fuss
7 Heath
8 Stowe villain Simon
9 Where insomnia might be studied
10 "Sad to say ..."
11 Like lemons
19 "Forget it!"
21 Branch
24 Actor Gibson
25 Coach Parseghian
26 Attire for chemists
28 Snitch
29 Treasury Dept. employee
30 Pac. counterpart
31 Inlet
36 Follower of Lao-tzu
37 Right angle
38 Frolicking
41 Baseball great Young
42 "Lion King" villain
43 Drive- — window
44 Dines
46 London district
47 Taxi alternative
48 Viral phenomenon
51 Aunt, in Acapulco

Solution time: 24 mins.



Yesterday's answer 7-4



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Melanie Fiona, 36; Becki Newton, 41; Andrew Zimmern, 58; Geraldo Rivera, 76.

Happy Birthday: Get involved in events or activities that excite you, but do so for the right reason. If you are trying to impress someone, you'll be disappointed. What you do this year should be for you and you alone. Consider what you can do to improve your health and your appearance. Don't pass up an opportunity. Live life your way. Your numbers are 3, 17, 22, 24, 33, 38, 46.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Lighten up and do something you enjoy. You can dwell on your glass being half empty, or you can make the most of your day and plan to get together with someone who inspires you to do your best. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Think twice before you make a change or commit to something you are iffy about doing. An argument will not be worth the fallout that unfolds. Do your best to get along with everyone. Keep your opinion to yourself. ✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Recall what's happened before you get involved in something that may have consequences. You are best to rely on facts and people who bring out the best in you, not the worst. Keep life simple. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Finish what you start. If you leave something undone, you can expect someone to take over and complain. Consider not making promises to begin with if you don't want to follow through. A personal change will be right for you. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Put everything you've got into doing what's right. Abide by the rules, and you'll avoid being reprimanded. Take care of business first, and reward yourself with downtime spent with someone you love or scheduling in rest and relaxation. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Follow the path that leads to victory. Make changes that will encourage personal improvements that will help you advance. Getting together with someone you've worked with will be informative. Romance is on the rise. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Take pride in helping others. Your insight and desire to do what's best will help you overcome the negativity or criticism someone close to you is dishing out. Trust in who you are and what you are capable of doing. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* It's what you do that will end up making a difference. Avoid getting into a discussion that will slow you down. Learn from experience, and you will make wise decisions that will help you improve physically and financially. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Cut your losses by doing what's practical. Listen to reason, not someone who has a pie-in-the-sky idea and a pushy attitude. Only invest in something you can afford and that will benefit you directly. ✪✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Try to get along. Compromise will be necessary, but in the end, you'll be glad you avoided getting into an argument that had the potential to bring about a personal change you prefer not to happen. Offer peace, not chaos. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* A window of opportunity is apparent. Start talking to people who are resourceful and can offer insight. A partnership looks promising, but you shouldn't sign up for anything until you feel confident that it will bring the returns you expect. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Do for others out of the goodness of your heart, not because you want something in return. Be moderate, helpful and considerate. Too much of anything will be to your detriment. Focus on peace and love, and avoid excess and indulgence. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are helpful, persuasive and dramatic. You are determined and colorful.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

6		8	4			3		
				6		4		
5							2	7
3					2			
	2						6	
			9					8
9	5							4
		1		3				
		4			6	8		2

Difficulty Level ★★★ 7/04

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

9	2	4	1	5	3	6	8	7
6	1	7	4	8	9	3	2	5
5	3	8	6	7	2	9	4	1
1	9	2	5	3	4	8	7	6
7	4	6	9	1	8	2	5	3
3	8	5	7	2	6	1	9	4
2	5	1	3	9	7	4	6	8
8	6	3	2	4	5	7	1	9
4	7	9	8	6	1	5	3	2

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

PAPER BAG LUNCHES — Solution: 8 letters

R	L	H	P	C	O	O	K	I	E	S	S	I	W	S
O	E	A	O	D	N	U	T	S	I	I	R	R	I	N
A	F	V	P	M	E	E	N	A	Z	L	A	R	M	I
S	T	A	A	P	E	C	A	E	M	P	E	A	A	S
T	O	R	C	S	L	M	I	N	K	O	A	D	L	I
B	V	T	A	F	Y	E	A	L	U	C	T	D	A	A
E	E	I	R	L	P	E	U	D	S	T	I	E	S	R
E	R	E	Ⓑ	Ⓞ	Ⓧ	N	N	A	E	N	J	H	K	I
F	S	K	S	O	C	K	R	O	W	A	A	C	C	C
H	M	A	H	H	S	T	A	E	M	S	F	E	A	O
O	A	E	H	C	I	W	D	N	A	S	T	R	N	T
T	K	R	E	S	E	E	H	C	A	I	R	E	S	T
D	E	B	R	O	W	N	G	L	B	O	N	A	A	A
O	R	A	N	G	E	R	A	G	T	R	E	U	E	K
G	R	A	P	E	S	D	D	S	S	C	L	U	B	P

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Apple, Bite, Box, Break, Brown, Bun, Carbs, Carrots, Cheddar, Cheese, Chicken, Club, Cookies, Croissant, Deli, Eggs, Fajita, Fresh, Grapes, Ham, Havarti, Homemade, Hot Dog, Leftovers, Lunch, Make, Meats, Money Saver, Nuts, Orange, Pear, Raisins, Ricotta, Roast Beef, Salad, Salami, Sandwich, School, Size, Sliced, Snacks, Steak, Swiss, Tomato, Tuna, Work, Wrap

Yesterday's Answer: Mollusks

The NEW Volume 56 can be purchased online at: www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

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RFP19-CHCC/CGC-016

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: JULY 29, 2019 **TIME: 2:00 PM**

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*Mandatory bidders meeting on July 03, 2019 @ 11:00 am, Saipan time @ CHCC Conference Room #3.

*Off-island vendors, please email Subroto Banerji @ Subroto.banerji@dph.gov.mp for a Zoom link.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ SUBROTO BANERJI
ACTING CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

BOAZ CORPORATION

Has an opening for
ACCOUNT CLERK

Job Duties:
Provide accounting and clerical support to the accounting department. Type accurately, prepare and maintain accounting documents and records. Prepare bank deposit, general ledger posting and statements. Reconcile accounts in a timely manner. Daily enter key date of financial transaction in database. Provide assistance and support to company personnel. Research, track and restore accounting or documentation problems and discrepancies. Inform management and compile reports/summaries on activity areas. Function in accordance with established standard, procedures and applicable laws. Constantly update job knowledge.

Requirements:
Proven accounting experience, preferable as an Accounts receivable clerk or Accounts Payable Clerk. Familiarity with bookkeeping and basic accounting procedures. Competency in MS Office, databases and accounting software. Hand on Experience with spreadsheets and financial reports. Aptitude for numbers. Ability to perform filing and record keeping tasks. Data entry and word processing skills. Well organized. High school degree or Associate's Degree or relevant certification is a plus. Korean/Speaking/reading and writing is a plus to better communicate with Tour Company partners in Korea. A lot of account payable and receivables are from tour agencies from Korea who gave customers to handle while they are in Saipan. Most of this documents are in native Korean language and having an Account Clerk, who can read, write and speak the Korean language would be a great help to our company in making sure each transactions are accurate. In the event that are discrepancies, the Account Clerk would have to verify each transaction with the Korean Tour Agency to reconcile each transaction to ensure accuracies. Language barrier would be a great inconvenience to both our company and our tour agency partner in Korea in making sure each transaction are well documented and reconciled to reflect maximum accuracy.

Salary: $8.84- $ 9.38 per hour
Interested applicants Send resume to
boazcorp2017@gmail.com or call 1-670-234-1667
Deadline for applications is July 10, 2019.
This job opportunity is a temporary, full-time position.

BOAZ CORPORATION

Has an opening for
TOUR GUIDE (3)

Job Duties:
Handle pre-arrange package tours & activities surrounding in-bound tours, have the ability to carry out activities numerated in the package tour, prepares reports on tour activities, correspond with tour operators in Korea, prepare exit & arrival schedules, must be able to formulate, organize & execute an attractive & competitive tour package in Korean to be sold in Korea, confirms reservations, arranges sales of optional tours or services. Assist in selling of optional tours, assist customers on daily basis in explaining all the optional tours and rental items available and perform other duties as assigned or as required. Explain the different optional tours available on the island. Explain and inform tourist customers about the different historic tourist spots on the island to give each customers knowledge about the islands history and its significance to the people of Saipan.

Requirements:
12-24 months related experience in tour/travel industry. Must be able to speak, read and write Korean Language. Computer skill required, excel and word.

At least High school graduate. Must possess a Tour Guide Certificate from MVA/NMC.

Must possess a valid CNMI Driver's License. Must be willing to work flexible schedule. Must provide prior related experience certificate.

Salary: $9.23 per hour

Interested applicants
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Phone No.: (670)234-7859
Fax No.: (670)234-5749

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Accountant
Opening Date: July 4, 2019 Closing Date: July 12, 2019

Job Duties: Recording and classifying the accounting transactions. Make entries into Time Matters Accounting and Bookkeeping system of Law Office as to receipts and expenditures. Handle client trust fund accounting, receives payments and post. Handle operations fund accounting, receives legal services collections. Deposit collections to Law Office Client Trust Account and Operations Fund depository banks. Analyze financial information, prepare accounting entries, such as general ledger accounts, documenting business transactions. Reconcile Client Trust and Operations Account per bank and ledger records. Prepare payroll. Prepare payments to vendors and other payables. Post payments and billings to clients. Prepare tax-related information, 941-SS, FICA Report, withholding tax, Annual Recon of Taxes Withheld, Business Gross Tax Return, Annual Tax Return and other revenue reports. Applies principles of accounting Analyze financial information, detailing assets, liabilities and capital, create financial reports using Time Matters Accounting, Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss Statement, and Statement of Retained Earnings. Prepares other reports to summarize current financial position. Prepares Cash Position Report and Summary of Receivables. Assist with law office operations including client inquiries, case management, file management, and other related duties as assigned.

Qualification Requirements: Applicants must be proficient with Time Matters, Billing Matters and Accounting System of Law Office. Must be an Accounting graduate (B.S. Accounting) with 36 months experience in bookkeeping and accounting field. Computer literate including Word Perfect and Microsoft Programs, Excel, Word and PowerPoint. Must know the Revenue and Taxes preparation and filing. Strong skills and organization. Able to work in the Law Office environment and; Strong interpersonal skills.

Full Time – 40 hours; bi-weekly
Salary Range: $ 12.08 per hour

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Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

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Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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76ers offering Simmons $170M max extension



Philadelphia 76ers' Ben Simmons (25) tries to get a shot past Orlando Magic's Jonathan Isaac, from right, Nikola Vucevic, and Aaron Gordon during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Tuesday, March 5, 2019, in Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Ben Simmons is apparently about to become the next recipient of a big commitment from the Philadelphia 76ers.

The All-Star point guard and the 76ers are negotiating a $170 million, five-year extension, according to a person with knowledge of the situation who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity Tuesday because neither the team nor Simmons revealed any details publicly.

ESPN first reported the negotiations between Simmons and the 76ers. The deal will begin in the 2020-21 season.

Simmons will make about $8.1 million this season, the last of his four-year rookie deal. Assuming the sides agree on what will be a full max, Simmons' salary for the following season would jump to about $29.3 million and eventually rise to nearly $39 million in 2024-25.

It's already been an offseason of big financial commitments for Philadelphia, which will sign Tobias Harris to a $180 million, five-year deal and add Al Horford on a four-year deal that could reach $109 million. Those deals cannot be finalized until the league's moratorium ends Saturday at noon Eastern.

Simmons was the No. 1 overall pick in the 2016 draft and wound up making his NBA debut in the 2017-18 season, earning Rookie of the Year honors. He was an All-Star for the first time last season, and has averaged 16.4 points, 8.5 rebounds and 7.9 assists in his two on-court seasons.

Simmons' extension, when finalized, will push the amount of money committed to point guards this offseason—either via free agency or extensions — past the $1.2 billion mark. Among the biggest winners of that sweepstakes: Portland's Damian Lillard got a $196 million extension, Denver's Jamal Murray got one for $170 million and Simmons is on his way to getting the same.

Philadelphia is 101-58 in regular-season games when Simmons plays. He's had 22 triple-doubles in the last two seasons, tied for third-most in the league with Denver's Nikola Jokic and trailing only Oklahoma City's Russell Westbrook (59) and the Los Angeles Lakers' LeBron James (26).

Simmons also has 80 double-doubles over the last two seasons.

Also Tuesday, the 76ers agreed with Shake Milton on a four-year contract and veteran James Ennis on a two-year deal. Those moves were confirmed by a person familiar with both sets of negotiations and who spoke to AP on condition of anonymity because they also cannot yet be finalized.

Milton appeared in 20 games and averaged 4.4 points for the 76ers last season. Ennis was a late-season acquisition by Philadelphia, his sixth franchise, and averaged 5.3 points in 18 regular-season appearances. The second year of Ennis' deal will be at his option, the person said.

Meanwhile, in Los Angeles, Rodney McGruder will be signing a three-year deal worth roughly $15 million with the Clippers.

McGruder agreed to the deal on Tuesday and had entered the offseason with the expectation that he was staying with the Clippers. McGruder started his NBA career with Miami, which waived him near the end of last season in a move designed to help the Heat avoid the luxury tax. The Clippers claimed him off waivers and he was around the team throughout its playoff run, though he was not eligible for the postseason roster.

In Oakland, Glenn Robinson III reached agreement on a two-year contract to join the Golden State Warriors, giving the team shooting depth next season as Klay Thompson works back from a serious knee injury.

Robinson's agency, Beyond Athlete Management, said Tuesday that Robinson's deal includes a player option for the second season.

Also Tuesday, a person with direct knowledge of the deals confirmed the Warriors will also add Willie Cauley-Stein and resign centre Kevon Looney.

The moves continue an already busy off-season for Golden State, which lost Kevin Durant to the Brooklyn Nets on Sunday but is keeping Thompson on a $190 million, five-year max contract. He will be recovering from surgery for a torn ACL in his left knee suffered in a Game 6 NBA Finals loss to the champion Toronto Raptors.

Looney agreed to a three-year deal expected to be for $15 million to stay with Golden State, the person told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because no contracts can be signed until the NBA's free agency moratorium period ends on Saturday. Though the Warriors frequently altered their starting centre based on matchups, Looney was getting the bulk of the minutes in the post-season and had been identified by coach Steve Kerr as one of the team's core pieces.

Looney played through the pain of a cartilage fracture in his right collarbone area during the finals.

He will be joined in the Warriors' centre rotation by Cauley-Stein, who makes the short move from Sacramento. The No. 6 pick in the 2015 draft, Cauley-Stein averaged 10.1 points and 6.4 rebounds with the Kings.

Robinson spent last season with Detroit, his fourth NBA team. He averaged 4.2 points and 1.2 rebounds in 47 games last season.

Zion makes Summer League debut vs Knicks

Zion Williamson knows he has a lot to learn starting when he makes his NBA Summer League debut.

That said, he's already picked up a few things.

The No. 1 overall pick in this year's draft by the New Orleans Pelicans is in Las Vegas, where his first game on Friday is officially sold out and, predictably, a hot ticket on the resale markets. After practicing Tuesday, Williamson said he's noticing that some of the rules of defense in the pro game seem a bit more offense-friendly than the zones he often saw in college.

"I do like the spacing a lot more," Williamson said, in a video posted to the Pelicans' web site. "You can't really just stand in the paint, so it gives me a lot of room to operate. Defense is just a little different as well."

New Orleans plays New York on Friday night in the opener for both teams in Las Vegas. The four-team leagues in Salt Lake City and Sacramento continued Tuesday, with both set to wrap up Wednesday before all 30 NBA teams—plus the Chinese and Croatian national teams—arrive in Vegas in what has become an annual convention of coaches, players, scouts and executives.

And, especially on Friday, plenty of eyes will be on Williamson.

"He's so explosive," Pelicans summer league coach Fred Vinson said. "You get him inside, especially create some mismatches, he can definitely be tough to handle."

Pelicans guard Frank Jackson was in summer league last year as well, and said he's already noticing a much different feel this year.

The Williamson effect is just part of that.

"Every guy we have here wants to win and wants to get better every single day," Jackson said. "I think there's an energy in New Orleans now that everyone can feel and we're ready to get it rocking."

Spurs 99, Grizzlies 84

In Salt Lake City, Keldon Johnson scored 29 points and made a 55-footer to end the third quarter, and San Antonio (2-0) didn't have much trouble with Memphis.

Johnson was 10 for 17 from the floor.

"I've definitely got some things I can improve on," Johnson said.

Ben Moore scored 16 points, Jeff Ledbetter had 15 and Thomas Robinson added 14 for the Spurs, who led by 22 points in the second quarter and kept control the rest of the way.

The Spurs gave several players the night off, including Lonnie Walker IV.

Dusty Hannahs scored 20 points for Memphis (1-1). Paris Lee had 13 for the Grizzlies, and Ben Lawson and Tyler Harvey each added 10.

Jazz 86, Cavaliers 71

Tony Bradley's big summer continued, as he finished with 26 points and 16 rebounds in Utah's win.

Bradley has 40 points and 31 rebounds through two games of summer league for the Jazz (1-1), who had a big lead cut to six midway through the fourth quarter before closing out the victory and keeping Cleveland (0-2) winless in Salt Lake City.

Bradley—in summer league for the third time—was 9 for 13 from the floor and 8 for 10 from the foul line.

"I just wanted to show that I had energy and could run the floor and had a high motor," Bradley said.

Justin Wright-Foreman scored 20 points and Tanner McGrew finished with 12 for the Jazz. Isaiah Cousins led Utah with six assists.

Lakers 100, Warriors 90

In Sacramento, the Lakers got down by 11 early and then controlled much of the final three quarters.

Zach Norvell Jr. scored 20 points for the Lakers (1-1), and Devontae Cacok finished with 16 points, 12 rebounds and five steals.

Joe Young added 13 points and Marcus Allen scored 10 for the Lakers.

Eric Paschall scored 18 for Golden State (0-2) on 6-for-8 shooting. Jacob Evans scored 13 while Alen Smailagic, Damian Jones and Jordan Peele all finished with 10.

Puig scores wild winning run for Reds

CINCINNATI (AP)—Christian Yelich's throw short-hopped first baseman Eric Thames, deflected off the end of his glove and skittered across the infield. Yasiel Puig saw an opening to end the game.

Puig homered to start Cincinnati's comeback, and he scored the winning run in the bottom of the 11th inning Tuesday night, rallying the Reds to a 5-4 victory over the Milwaukee Brewers.

Yelich hit his major league-leading 31st homer as the Brewers got ahead 4-2 and then had a hand in the play that let it get away at the end.

Puig hit a solo homer in the seventh, and Joey Votto doubled home the tying run in the eighth—only the second time this season that the Brewers failed after leading so late in a game.

Puig singled with two outs in the 11th off Corbin Burnes (1-4) and easily made it to third on Jose Iglesias' single to right. When Yelich's return throw deflected away, Puig decided to take a chance that paid off, sliding in headfirst before the Brewers could make a play.

"I like to play the way I play," Puig said. "Sometimes it's stupid, sometimes it works."

Manager David Bell liked Puig's aggressiveness with the game on the line.

"Man, he willed that win with his base-running," Bell said. "To win a game with base-running, that's pretty cool. That's fun. That doesn't always happen."

The Reds' comeback ended Milwaukee's streak of six straight wins at Great American Ball Park. The Brewers have won 11 of their last 16 against Cincinnati overall, but let this one get away because they couldn't handle a throw to the infield.

"The throw back in hit the ground and came up on me," Thames said. "That's an unfortunate way to lose."

Once the ball deflected off Thames' glove, catcher Yasmani Grandal had to chase it toward third base, giving Puig his opening.

Astros 9, Rockies 8

In Denver, Yuli Gurriel homered twice and drove in four runs to lead the Houston Astros over the Colorado Rockies.

Jose Altuve had four hits and Gurriel and George Springer finished with three hits each to help the Astros win their fourth straight.

Colorado led 8-5 entering the seventh, but Houston rallied to go ahead. Gurriel's two-run homer off of reliever Jake McGee (0-1) capped a four-run inning that was started by three straight doubles.

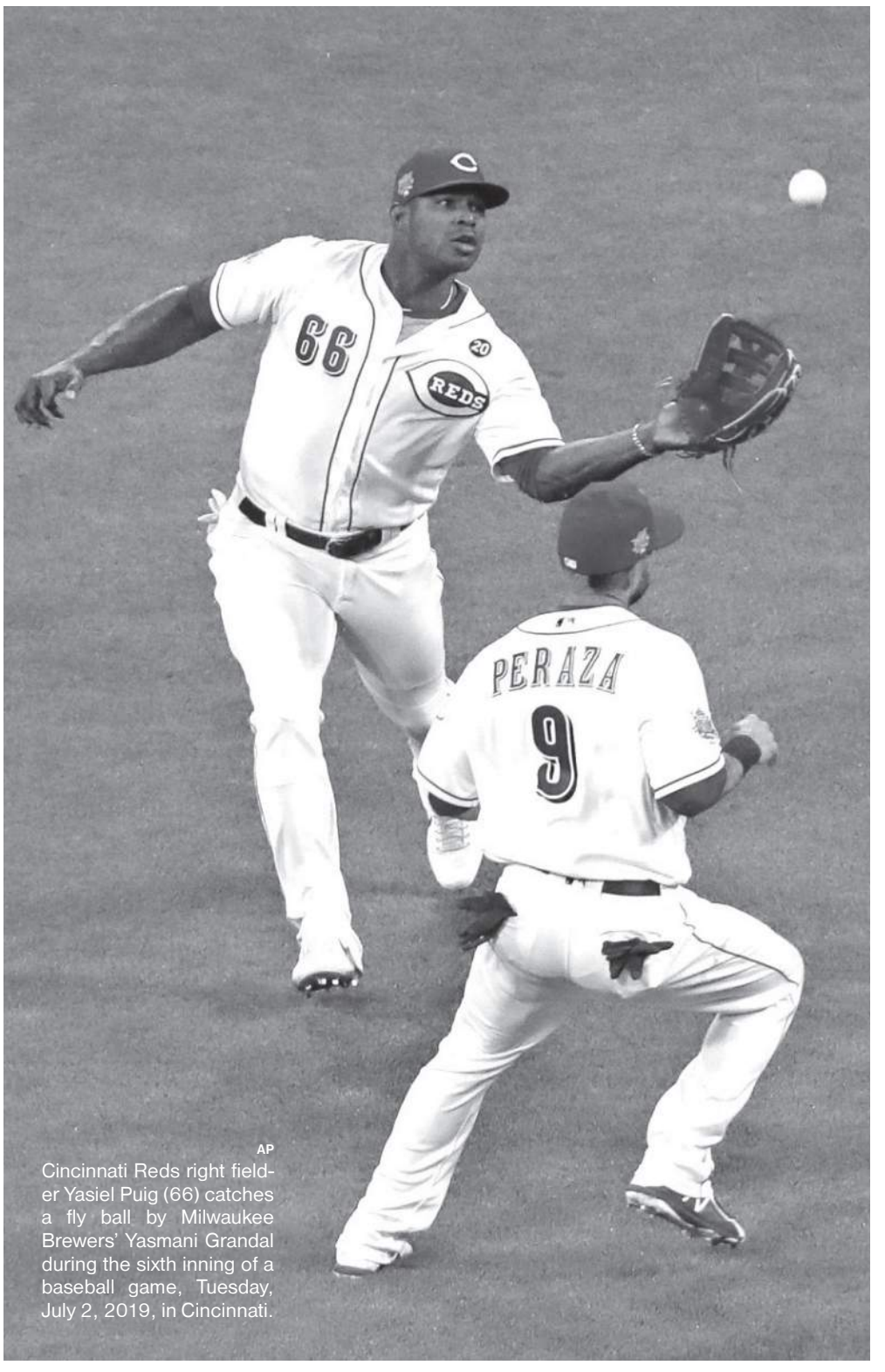
Mets 4, Yankees 2

In New York, Michael Conforto hit a two-run double that snapped an eighth-inning tie and lifted the Mets over the Yankees in their Subway Series opener at Citi Field.

J.D. Davis homered and delivered a tying double to help the Mets rally in the eighth for the second consecutive game.

The Yankees did not hit a home run for the first time in 31 games, ending their record streak.

The Yankees had their five-game winning streak stopped and lost for only the second time in their past 15.



AP

Cincinnati Reds right fielder Yasiel Puig (66) catches a fly ball by Milwaukee Brewers' Yasmani Grandal during the sixth inning of a baseball game, Tuesday, July 2, 2019, in Cincinnati.

Rays 6, Orioles 3

In St. Petersburg, Charlie Morton struck out six straight batters and a season-high 12 overall, and Tampa Bay beat Baltimore for its fourth straight win.

Morton (9-2) pitched seven innings, giving up four hits and a walk.

Brandon Lowe had a homer among his three hits and drove in two for the Rays before leaving the game in the sixth with a leg contusion. Avisail Garcia had a two-run single and Tommy Pham added a two-run double.

Phillies 2, Braves 0

In Atlanta, Aaron Nola pitched eight innings, Jay Bruce hit a two-run double and Philadelphia spoiled Dallas Keuchel's home debut with the Braves.

Nola (7-2) allowed four hits, struck out eight and walked three in his second consecutive scoreless outing. He threw a career-high 117 pitches before Héctor Neris finished for his 17th save in 19 chances, striking out the side.

Red Sox 10, Blue Jays 6

In Toronto, David Price pitched six innings to win his fifth straight decision, Rafael Devers homered twice and matched his career-high with six RBI, and Boston snapped a three-game losing streak.

Christian Vázquez had a homer among his three hits and Mookie Betts had two singles, walked twice, and scored three runs for the Red Sox. Devers finished 4 for 5.

Price (6-2) allowed two runs and four hits in six innings. He walked a season-high four.

Trent Thornton (2-6) allowed career worsts of seven runs and 11 hits in 2 2/3 innings.

Nationals 3, Marlins 2

In Washington, Patrick Corbin pitched seven strong innings on an emotional night, Trea Turner doubled home the winning run in the ninth and the Nationals beat the Miami Marlins.

Yan Gomes reached on an error by third baseman Neil Walker with one out in the ninth. With two outs, Turner doubled to the gap in right center off Jose Quijada (0-2) and Gomes raced all the way home.

Pirates 5, Cubs 1

In Pittsburgh, Adam Frazier is enjoying his return to the lead-off spot for the Pirates.

The second baseman hit a three-run home run off Chicago's Mike Montgomery after a long rain delay to lead the Pirates to a 5-1 victory over the Cubs.

One game after tying a major league record by clubbing four doubles, Frazier finished 4 for 4 and scored three runs as the Pirates won for the ninth time in 13 games.

Indians 9, Royals 5

In Kansas City, Jake Bauers matched a career high with four hits while driving in three runs, the Cleveland bullpen bailed Trevor Bauer out of a late jam and the Indians held on to beat the Royals.

Pitching a day after the death of his former teammate and friend Tyler Skaggs, Bauer (7-6) left nursing a 7-4 lead with the bases loaded and nobody out in the seventh. Oliver Perez managed an out before surrendering a sacrifice fly, and Adam Cimber got the two outs and preserve the Indians' lead.

Mexico needs extra-time penalty to nip Haiti

GLENDALE, Ariz. (AP)—Raul Jimenez scored on a penalty kick in the 93rd minute and Mexico ended Haiti's impressive Gold Cup run in the semifinals with a 1-0 victory on Tuesday night.

Mexico dominated possession, yet could not find a way to put the finishing touches in Haiti's end, allowing Les Grenadiers to hang around and build confidence while playing to a scoreless tie in regulation.

Jimenez was awarded a penalty kick early in the extra time after Herve Bazile took him down at the edge of the penalty box. Jimenez slow-played the penalty kick, slipping it behind Jhony Placide after the Haitian goalie dove to his right to bring the crowd to its feet.

Haiti had a final chance to tie in the 119th minute, but Mikeal Gabriel Cantave's shot hit the crossbar and popped straight up in the air to Mexico goalie Guillermo Ochoa.

El Tri moves on to face defending champion United States or Jamaica in Sunday's final at Chicago's Soldier Field.

Concacaf GOLD CUP

Mexico, a seven-time Gold Cup champion, arrived in the desert as an overwhelming favorite against the young, confident Haitian side.

Ranked No. 101 in the world, Haiti did not bow under the pressure of playing in its first Gold Cup semifinal or facing mighty Mexico in front of 64,000 fans who made it feel like a home match for El Tri.

Haiti beat Canada in the semifinals for its biggest win since qualifying for the 1974 World Cup and did not back down from Mexico, withstanding El Tri's constant pressure and counterattacking when the opportunity arose.

With manager Gerardo Martino watching from a suite above—he was suspended after picking up two yellow cards—Mexico struggled to finish in the first half despite numerous chances. Placide also made a diving save on Jimenez's header late in the half to keep Les Grenadiers tied at halftime.

Placide made another spectacular save in the 67th minute, leaping to knock away Andres Guardado's free kick from just outside the penalty box, and Mexico continued to watch quality scoring opportunities come up empty.

Haiti failed in three previous attempts to get past the Gold Cup quarterfinals, including a loss to Mexico in 2009.

Les Grenadiers, with their mix-and-match of young players born in countries across the globe, overcame language barriers—they speak everything from Creole to Portuguese—to make a monumental breakthrough to inspire a country that still hasn't fully recovered from a massive earthquake in 2011.

Haiti won its group with a surprising comeback win over Costa Rica and rallied from a two-goal halftime deficit to beat Canada 3-2 to reach its first Gold Cup semifinals.

Haiti's confidence carried into its game against El Tri.

Mexico, which beat Costa Rica on penalty kicks in the quarterfinals, used its crisp-passing control game to pressure Haiti throughout the first half. But Les Grenadiers played a countering, direct-attack game to create a few chances of their own.

With Mexico unable to finish, Haiti seemed to build more confidence the longer the game remained tied.

Les Grenadiers fought to a scoreless tie in regulation, but their dream run ended with a penalty kick and a hit crossbar in extra time.

No upset: Serena cruises past Italian qualifier

WIMBLEDON, England (AP)—Used to be that players would dread the prospect of facing Serena Williams, especially at Wimbledon.

Nowadays, they seem to be eager to go up against her—not because they think they can beat Williams, mind you, but because, well, she's Serena Williams, and what better way to create a memory for life than to share a court with one of the, if not THE, greatest in the history of tennis.

So that's why Giulia Gatto-Monticone, a 31-year-old qualifier from Italy making her debut at the All England Club, was thrilled when the draw put her up against Williams in the first round Tuesday, and the schedule put them on Centre Court, to boot. So what if Gatto-Monticone fell behind 5-0 in 17 minutes and wound up losing 6-2, 7-5?

"Incredibly happy to play her," Gatto-Monticone said afterward. "Serena is Serena."

The whole day was, she said, "a dream come true," filled with smiles and tears and goose bumps. From the tour of the stadium that she, her coach, her physiotherapist and her physiotherapist's son were given in the morning: "We went through the club members' area. Just a spectacular place. Truly beautiful couches, flowers. We saw the trophies. We saw the entrance to the court," Gatto-Monticone said.



AP

United States' Serena Williams plays a shot to Italy's Giulia Gatto-Monticone in a women's singles match during Day 2 of the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London, Tuesday, July 2, 2019.

To the match itself, which was briefly even in the second set at 5-all, prompting an Italian reporter to ask whether Gatto-Monticone wondered whether maybe she had a chance: "No," came the reply, "I never thought that."

To the handshake after the highlight-worthy 12-stroke exchange that capped the result, including a trade of volleys with both women at the net: "She told me I'm an amazing player. I don't know if she really thought so, but she was so nice. I told her she's the queen of this tournament. I thanked her."

And then came this: Gatto-Monticone asked the 37-year-old Williams if they could pose for a selfie together.

"She was sweet, because I was panicking and I couldn't find my phone," Gatto-Monticone recounted. "She said, 'That's fine. Don't worry. I'll take it with mine and post it on Instagram.' I said, 'Perfect!'"

Consider, too, the attitude of the next woman standing in the way of Williams' bid for an eighth Wimbledon championship and 24th Grand Slam singles trophy overall (which is aside from her hardware in women's doubles and mixed doubles, an event she is entering this week with Andy Murray). That's another qualifier, 18-year-old Kaja Juvan of Slovenia, who was born a little more than a year after Williams won the 1999 U.S. Open.

Juvan, like Gatto-Monticone, relishes the opportunity to meet Williams.

"I'm glad I got the chance to still play with her," Juvan said, "because she's done so much in her career."

This is true, of course. The thing right now for Williams is that she hasn't been able to do much this season, in part because of an injured left knee that was a big reason Tuesday's match was only her 13th of 2019.

Defending champion Angelique Kerber, two-time Wimbledon winner Petra Kvitova and Ash Barty—playing her first match at No. 1 in the rankings—all won in straight sets.

Sharapova retires

Maria Sharapova retired from her first-round match at Wimbledon with a left wrist injury while trailing 5-0 in the third set.

The 2004 Wimbledon champion served for the match while leading 5-3 in the second set but lost to Pauline Parmentier of France 4-6, 7-6 (4), 5-0.

Sharapova, who was unseeded at the All England Club for the first time since her debut in 2003, called for a medical timeout after the second set and a trainer put some taping on her wrist. She called for the trainer a second time in the third set, and stopped just after Parmentier served for the 5-0 lead.

This year's Wimbledon was only Sharapova's second tournament since January following shoulder surgery. She lost in the second round in Mallorca last month.

Nadal advances

Playing his first match since winning his 12th French Open title, Rafael Nadal had little trouble in making the switch from clay to grass.

Nadal began his search for a third Wimbledon title by beating Japanese qualifier Yuichi Sugita 6-3, 6-1, 6-3 on No. 1 Court to reach the second round.

Nadal was broken in the opening game but dominated after that, breaking his opponent six times and served out the match when Sugita sent a return long. He will next face Nick Kyrgios.

Last year, the Spaniard reached the semifinals at the All England Club for the first time since 2011 before losing to eventual champion Novak Djokovic in five sets.

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CNMI bet played in a series of high-level tournaments in Belgium and Italy and Lee believes these competitions will help her for the tough battles in Samoa.

"My trip to Italy and Belgium was really good. I am so thankful to the ITF for all the opportunities they have given me to compete against some of the best players in the world," said Lee.

With her rich experience in the World ITF Juniors events and several victories in the ranking tournaments, Lee acknowledged that her teammates and coach (Jeff Race) are expecting a lot from here.

"I am always honored to represent CNMI and being a part of the team makes me feel less pressure. I will do my best to perform well. I always have high expectations of myself and I know coach Jeff also has high expectations from me," said the four-time Northern Marianas Sports Association/Tan Siu Lin Foundation Female Student Athlete of the Year awardee.

As for her competitors, Lee anticipates to meet a couple of her teammates with the Pacific Oceania Junior and Senior Fed Cup squads. One of them is Pacific's No. 1 player and Papua New Guinea flagbearer Abigail Tere-Apisah. Samoa's Steffi Carruthers, PNG's Violet Apisah, and Lee's fellow junior players Eleanor Schuster of Samoa, Saoirse Breen of Fiji, and Zorika Morgan of the Solomon Islands are the other members of the Pacific Oceania Fed Cup teams that will see action in the Pacific Games.

"I'm a bit nervous to compete against them because I look up to them so much. I've learned a lot from them on our Fed Cup ties. I'm looking forward to the challenge though. The level of competition will be good as there are good players from all over the region competing," Lee said.

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unranked Nauru and the debuting Australia.

Each pool will have a round-robin format and only the Top 3 from each group will advance to the second round, which will be a single-elimination affair to determine the qualifiers in the Round of 8. The quarterfinals will also implement a single elimination format and the four teams left standing will play in the semifinals in the morning of July 12. The bronze and gold medal matches are set in the afternoon.

"The games will surely be intense. I've seen players from these countries before and they are fierce competitors. PNG, Tahiti, and Fiji are the contenders, but there is also Australia," said Tyce, who will be competing in the quadrennial event for the fifth time, having represented the CNMI in the Pacific Games hosted in Guam, Fiji, Samoa, and New Caledonia.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Logan, left, and Tyce Mister pose for a photo after a send-off ceremony for Team CNMI last Friday at Kanoa Resort.

Tyce, who was with Chris Nelson in the 2015 edition of the Pacific Games, is expecting to see in Samoa some familiar faces, who may think again that he is now coaching a team.

"In New Caledonia, I was asked if I was the coach of our team. They were surprised when I told them I am still playing," said Tyce, who is in his early 50s and will be teaming up with his 17-year-old son.

"It's really great to be back in the Pacific Games and this time play with my son," the older Mister added.

As for Logan, he expects to learn a lot from the veteran players in Samoa, especially from his father.

Meanwhile, the women's beach volleyball competition has only three groups. Pool A has Vanuatu, Kiribati, and Tahiti, while the Solomon Islands, New Caledonia, Australia, and American Samoa are in Pool B. The host country leads Pool C and will be playing against PNG, Palau, and the Marshall Islands.

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on the U.S. career list with Michelle Akers.

"I can't even express how proud I am. It was just such a great effort from everybody," U.S. coach Jill Ellis said.

The United States leads the tournament field with 24 total goals.

Tea sipping causes stir

Morgan powered home the winning header, but it was her 'tea-sipping' goal celebration that has caused a stir.

Morgan ran to the sideline and stopped to sip an imaginary cup of tea, sparking a slew of memes and American Revolution references on social media.

The victory came two days before Independence Day in the United States, which commemorates the Declaration of Independence from Britain by 13 American colonies in 1776.

Morgan came in for some criticism for the celebration, with England international Lianne Sanderson describing it as "distasteful".

"I think tonight I expected Alex to grab a goal, but I'm not that happy with that celebration," the Juventus forward told beIN Sports.

"I could be wrong but it's based upon playing against England and we love our tea in England. I'm not a tea drinker but that's what we're connected with so I think it's a little bit distasteful."

Morgan said the celebration was her way of responding to the U.S. team critics, who have accused the defending champions of arrogance.

"I wanted to keep it interesting," she said. "I know Megan Rapinoe has the best celebration. I had to try and step up this game.

"I feel like this team has had so much thrown at them and us. I feel like we didn't take an easy route through this tournament and 'that's the tea.'"

Morgan's goal, Naeher's save lift US over England



AP

United States goalkeeper Alyssa Naeher saves a penalty from England's Steph Houghton during the Women's World Cup semifinal soccer match at the Stade de Lyon outside Lyon, France, Tuesday, July 2, 2019.

LYON, France (AP)—Alex Morgan celebrated her go-ahead goal with a cheeky tea-sipping motion and Alyssa Naeher stopped a late penalty kick to send the United States into the final at the Women's World Cup with a 2-1 victory over England on Tuesday night.

The top-ranked United States will face the winner of Wednesday's semifinal between the Netherlands and Sweden in the Americans' third straight appearance in the World Cup title match.

Christen Press—who started with Megan Rapinoe out with a hamstring injury— put the United States up early in the match but Ellen White's goal tied it before 20 minutes had passed. Morgan's sixth goal of the tournament came before the break, and on her 30th birthday. She hadn't had a goal since she scored five in the team's 13-0 rout of Thailand to open the tournament.

"I think we've put so much into this journey together—and now we have one more game to close it out," Morgan said.

White's goal was also her sixth but Morgan has the edge for the tournament's Golden Boot with three assists. White appeared to score her seventh in the 69th minute but video review determined she was offside—and the Americans in the crowd of 53,512 at Stade de Lyon roared.

A video review went against the United States late in the game when it determined Becky Sauerbrunn had fouled White in the penalty area. England captain Steph Houghton's penalty shot was smothered by a diving Naeher in the 84th minute.

It was the first penalty kick saved by a U.S. goalkeeper in regular time at the World Cup. At the final whistle, the team mobbed Naeher in front of the goal in celebration.

The mild-mannered goalkeeper was asked afterward if it was the biggest save of her life. "Probably up there, yeah," she said smiling.

The top-ranked Americans have been to the semifinals of all eight World Cups, and they've won the trophy three times, more than any nation. The U.S. team's lone loss in a World Cup title match came to Japan in 2011.

Third-ranked England went through to the semifinals in 2015 but fell to Japan before beating Germany in the third-place match for the Lionesses' best finish in the tournament.

"No words that I can say tonight will make them feel any better," England coach Phil Neville said.

The United States has won 11 straight World Cup matches and is undefeated in its last 16. With the quarterfinal victory in France, the Americans tied Norway's record winning streak set over the 1995 and 1999 tournaments.

The Americans have exuded confidence since arriving in France. After pouncing on Thailand 13-0 in the opener and celebrating each goal in the rout, they beat nemesis Sweden, the team that ousted the United States in the quarterfinals at the 2016 Olympics. And Rapinoe stuck a victorious pose in a 2-1 quarterfinal victory over France on Friday night in Paris.

England started Carly Telford in goal instead of Karen Bardsley, who was out with a hamstring injury. Bardsley had shutouts in both of the team's knockout round matches. Telford started in the team's group stage match against Argentina.

England had shut out its last four opponents but the United States attacked early as expected—the Americans have scored within the first 15 minutes of all of their games in France.

Press delivered first, scoring on a header off a long cross from Kelley O'Hara that sailed over Telford's outstretched arm. It was Press' first goal in France, and her second World Cup goal overall.

Shortly thereafter, Beth Mead served the ball to White, who got between the U.S. center backs for the finish to pull England even. White raised her hands to her face for her customary "glasses" celebration.

The United States pulled ahead when Lindsey Horan found Morgan in front of the net for the header. It was Morgan's 107th international goal, moving her into a tie for fifth

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AP

United States' Alex Morgan, left, celebrates her side's second goal during the Women's World Cup semifinal soccer match at the Stade de Lyon outside Lyon, France, Tuesday, July 2, 2019.

After semis pain, England seeks to wipe away tears

As the Americans raced to huddle in celebration, Lucy Bronze couldn't bear to take in the scene.

Drained and distressed by another World Cup semifinal loss with England, the defender collapsed to the field and lay face down.

It was a moment to reflect and dwell on what could have been.

"I was disappointed in my own performance," Bronze said after the 2-1 loss. "I could have played a higher level."

But when Bronze picked herself up and rejoined her teammates and Phil Neville in a huddle, the coach had a message to deliver.

"We have come to the World Cup and given our absolute all," Neville recalled telling them.

"I didn't want to see tears," he said. "I wanted to see smiles. We've had the best 46 days of our lives."

Looking over at his players, he started to think about winning bronze on Saturday against the Netherlands or Sweden, then Olympic gold in Tokyo next year leading a British team and triumphing in the European Championship on home soil in 2021 with England.

"I was looking over at them and that was my motivation," Neville said. "I don't wallow. I won't go back to my room and feel sorry for myself."

Nor accept just being in the top four, with predecessor Mark Sampson leading England to third place at the 2015 World Cup and the semifinals at Euro 2017.

"Maybe in the past we have probably accepted semifinals, 'Yes we're happy and we're going home and we'll get lots of plaudits,'" Neville said. "But my players don't want to hear that anymore. They are sick of it and so am I. We came here to win and we didn't do that."

Neville is always planning ahead.

"I was in the room this afternoon planning the next two years, it's the way I work - it's fast," Neville said. "I can't say to my players unlucky because they don't want to hear that. That's white noise to them."

The players know themselves about the game-changing moments that turned the semifinal in favor of the world's top-ranked team.

Bronze felt she could have done more to prevent Christen Press heading the United States in front after 10 minutes.

"I am used to being defensively solid, no matter what people say about me as an attacker," the right back said. "I always want to defend well and I'm disappointed I didn't do that to my best tonight."

Rapinoe hopes to be ready for finals despite hamstring strain

LYON, France (AP)—A minor hamstring strain kept star forward Megan Rapinoe out of the United States' nail-biting 2-1 win over England in the Women's World Cup semifinals Tuesday night.

It didn't stop her from pouring off the bench with the other substitutes to congratulate their teammates, and Rapinoe is confident it won't rule her out of Sunday's final against either the Netherlands or Sweden.

Rapinoe was injured late in the second half of the 2-1 win against France last Friday.

"It just tightened up a little bit toward the end. Just wasn't going to be ready for today," Rapinoe told reporters after the victory against England moved the U.S. closer to a fourth World Cup title. "But it's feeling much better and I expect to be ready for the final."

When asked how confident she was, she replied: "It's a combination of how it feels and how it looks and what I can do. I expect (with) how it feels now to be ready. As is with these things, you just have to go day by day and see how it is."

Rapinoe watched nervously from the bench as England had an apparent equalizer by its own star forward Ellen White ruled out for offside and, with just a few minutes remaining, watched goalkeeper Alyssa Naeher save a penalty kick by England.

There was widespread elation at the end, but for Rapinoe it was torture to watch.

"It's terrible. It's so stressful," she said, breaking out into a smile of relief. "It's hard. You put everything into this game ... You have everything invested in it and no way to get rid of your anxiety."

At the final whistle, she jumped into the arms of her teammates, embracing them one by one.

When she finally reached goalkeeper Naeher, she bear-hugged her first and then lifted her off her feet.

Rapinoe joked that she could have injured her glutes in the process, and then praised her ice-cool teammate.

"That was a huge performance from her, to be in that moment," Rapinoe said. "It's one thing to take a penalty, it's another to save one and keep your cool. To make a save like that is just fantastic for her."



76ers offering Simmons $170M max extension

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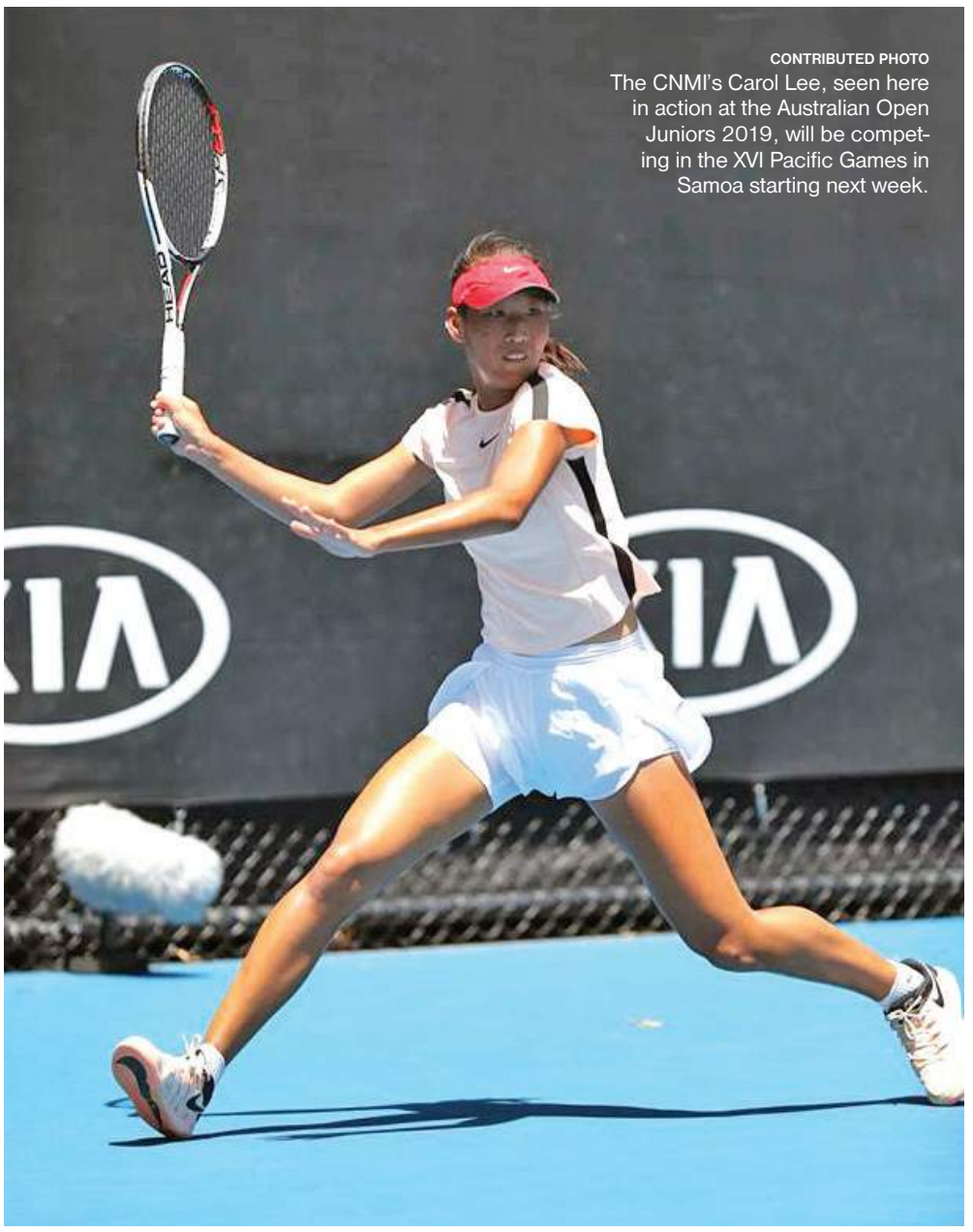
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Carol primed for Pacific Games



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The CNMI's Carol Lee, seen here in action at the Australian Open Juniors 2019, will be competing in the XVI Pacific Games in Samoa starting next week.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI's Carol Lee is looking sharp and ready for battle in the XVI Pacific Games in Samoa.

"My preparations for the Games are going well. I did a training block for two weeks after I came back from Belgium. I am working hard on the court and in the gym," said Lee, who will be leading the CNMI Women's National Tennis Team that also has Isabel Heras, Tania Tan, and Malika Miyawaki.

Lee is still in Fiji attending the International Tennis Federation Training Center in Lautoka. She also competed in a J4 (Grade 4) World ITF Juniors event there and swept the doubles and singles championships of the tournament to match her highest ranking (world No. 114).

The 17-year-old will be in Fiji until Friday and will use the remaining days to train for the Pacific Games, which will have its opening ceremonies this Sunday and regular competition on Monday.

"I'm polishing up a few things before we head to Apia on Friday to meet the team," said Lee.

Before returning to the training facility in Fiji, the

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NMI vs PNG in beach volleyball

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI will face the defending champion Papua New Guinea in the opening match in the beach volleyball competition in the XVI Pacific Games.

The Commonwealth, which will be represented by the father-and-son pair of Tyce and Logan Mister, will challenge the No. 1 seed PNG in the 9am kickoff game at the Apia Waterfront in Samoa on Monday. PNG won the gold medal in the XV Pacific Games at its home turf with Richard Kilarupa and Moha Mea defeating Fii's AIsake Raratabu and Waisale Suka in straight sets in the finale. American Samoa's Miles Muagututia and Sigalu Aitui completed the podium finish following a victory over Tonga's Metuisela Vainikolo and Salesi Tuakoi in the bronze medal game.

PNG, which will be coached by Mea and has Richard Batari and Claude Walo as players, and the unranked CNMI are in Pool A along with No. 9 Kiribati, and No. 10 Tuvalu. Pool B has No. 2 Samoa, No. 7 Cook Islands, No. 10 Palau, and Tahiti. No. 4 Tonga leads Pool C, which will also feature No. 7 New Caledonia, and the unseeded Guam and American Samoa. Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands are both seeded No. 5 in Group D and will go up against the

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE
Tyce Mister will be teaming up with his son, Logan, as they represent the CNMI to the XVI Pacific Games in Apia, Samoa.

Manibusan qualifies in SGA Ace of Aces

CNMI Attorney General Ed Manibusan topped the Saipan Golfers Association's May Ace of the Month Tournament to earn a spot to the club championship.

Manibusan shot a net 69 for a two-stroke win over Tony Deleon Guerrero and Jung Eun Teack in the competition played last May 19 at the Kingfisher Golf Links.

The 6-handicapper Manibusan tallied a 37 in the first nine holes and a 38 in the last nine for a gross 75. With his close win, he will join Larry I. Deleon Guerrero (January Ace), Steve Balakrishna (February Ace), Joe I. Sablan (March Ace), and John "Nanni" Cruz (April Ace) in the SGA Ace of Aces, which will be played at the end of the season with seven slots left in the club championship.



SAIPAN TRIBUNE
CNMI Attorney General Ed Manibusan tees off during a local tournament.

Meanwhile, Deleon Guerrero, a 14-handicapper, recorded a 44 and 41 on the front and back nines for a gross 85 and won the tiebreak for second place via the scorecard playoff. Teack, who had a 13 handicap, carded a 43 on the front and 41 on the back for a gross 84.

In other results, Juan Diaz and Rick Kautz won the longest drive contest on holes No. 7 and 11, respectively. Kautz also prevailed in the closest to the pin competition on Nos. 8 and 15, while Joe Sablan and Tony Deleon Guerrero prevailed on No. 6 and No. 12, respectively. ***(Saipan Tribune)***